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Greensboro



Jefferson Square. The clock, on the Southeastern Building, long a city landmark, was removed in the 1960s.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library

By Patrick O'Keefe

**Design by
Michael Brewer
Donning Company/Publishers
Norfolk, Virginia**

South Elm Street, circa 1910.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



Greensboro

A PICTORIAL HISTORY

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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data:

Main entry under title:

Greensboro: a pictorial history.

1. Greensboro, N.C.—History—Pictorial works. 2. Greensboro, N.C.—Description—Views. I. O'Keefe, Patrick, 1942-

F264.G8G82 975.6'162 77-2178

ISBN O-915442-27-2

Printed in the United States of America



Greensboro Station, 1940s.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library





**Dedicated to all the people who
have made Greensboro the
gentle, warm, and vibrant city
it is**



Asheboro Street around 1900, the Charles Watson
residence at left.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library





FOREWORD

Jeff Wayman and I produced, rather than wrote and photographed this book, in that we gathered scores of historic photographs and some maps and sketches from various community sources, and culled material for the introductory essay, section headings, and captions largely from Ethel Arnett's *Greensboro, North Carolina* and the May 29, 1971 Guilford County Bicentennial edition of *The Greensboro Daily News*. Nonetheless, we came to learn that such "production" too can be an art—and a very rewarding one. We sincerely hope most readers will agree that the picture selection touches the important bases in Greensboro's development, though we know that some inevitably will find gaps. To those who do, we can only say, "We apologize—and we wish we'd known where that picture was when we were looking for it."

Among those who made noteworthy contributions to either our photo or our written-word research were: David Alexander, Greensboro Chamber of Commerce; Bill Moore, Director, Greensboro Historical Museum; Charles Hodgins, Greensboro City Planning Dept.; Wilson Davis, Director, UNC-G News Bureau; Marjorie Hood, UNC-G Librarian; Carol Winn, Publications Assistant, Bennett College; Dick Moore, Director, Information Services, A & T State University; Thelma Pearsall, Archivist, A & T State University; Dave Owens, Director, Guilford College Publications and Information Services; Carole Treadway, Guilford College Librarian; Colvin Leonard, News Director, Greensboro College; Ethel Stephens Arnett, Historian of the City of Greensboro; James G. W. MacLamroc, Guilford County Historian; Bob Isaacs, *Greensboro News-Record* Librarian; and Mrs. Randall Jarrell. In addition, Debbie Wallace, Dawn Lambert, Bob Stevens, and John Minter all helped with photo research and captions.

I'd like to salute our publisher, The Donning Company, captained by an M.F.A. graduate of UNC-G, Bob Friedman, for the patience and perseverance I exacted of them in producing this pictorial.

Patrick O'Keefe
Greensboro, 1977

A State Normal and Industrial College float, probably used in the Greensboro Centennial Parade in 1908.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Sketch reproduced from early explorers' drawings of North Carolina Indians shows, left, deer antlers sometimes worn by hunters stalking deer, and right, weapons and tools of area Indians.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum

INTRODUCTION

The land had always been gentle: rolling hills with pine and oak forests sprouted from the red clay; moderate rainfall fell. It was not too hot in the summer—but hot enough, certainly—and not too cold in the winter, just enough for a change of seasons; and there never was much snow.

Somehow, right from the start, the gentleness of the land seeped into the people.

The Indians who lived in what was to become Guilford County were mostly hunters, not warriors. They were Sioux, cousins of the Sioux Indians of the Dakotas, who had left the area earlier. The Sioux, who grew corn, beans, and squash and lived in dome-like houses made of poles and bark, were enemies of the Cherokee to the south and west, and particularly of the Iroquois to the north. The Catawbans were the largest and the most powerful of the Sioux tribes.

Generally, the Sioux built stockades to defend themselves against the Iroquois who came down to take captives, torture to death, or sell the Sioux to other tribes as slaves.

For the most part, the Sioux were friendly with the white settlers who trickled down from the North. But, in 1715, they fought with the Cherokee and the Yamasee against the English in the Yamasee War. By 1720 the Piedmont of North Carolina was mostly clear of Indians and open to white settlers. Catawbans returned to Guilford County during the Revolution as scouts for the colonists. But never again were the Indians who crisscrossed Guilford County for thousands of years in search of game to return in large numbers.

The first wave of white settlers swept into the Guilford County area about 1740-1750. They came primarily from three groups: Germans, Calvinists (Reformed), and Lutherans; English, who were Quakers; and Scotch-Irish (Ulsterites), Presbyterians. All were seeking basically the same thing: good, cheap land on which to settle and cultivate, peace, and religious freedom. Some emigrated from Pennsylvania, which some settlers already considered “too crowded,” and some came directly from the wharfs of Philadelphia after a transatlantic crossing.

The earliest reference to any specific area of Guilford County is dated 1745. In that year King George II granted Henry Eustace McCulloch eight tracts of 1,250 acres each on the headwaters of the Alamance and Stinking Quarter Creeks. McCulloch in turn sold some of his lands to William Rose,

Peter Amick, Nathaniel Robinson, Jeremiah Kimbor, James O'Neal, Solomon Grace, and Smith Moore.

The people who settled in Guilford County were hard-working farmers, artisans, pioneers. They stood in sharp contrast to the English planters who roamed south from Tidewater Virginia into the broad plains and marshes of Eastern Carolina a century earlier and established typical Southern plantation life. “Down East they were more leisurely; they had fancy dress-up balls and all that,” says James W. G. MacLamroc, Guilford County historian. “There was none of that around here in the early days.”

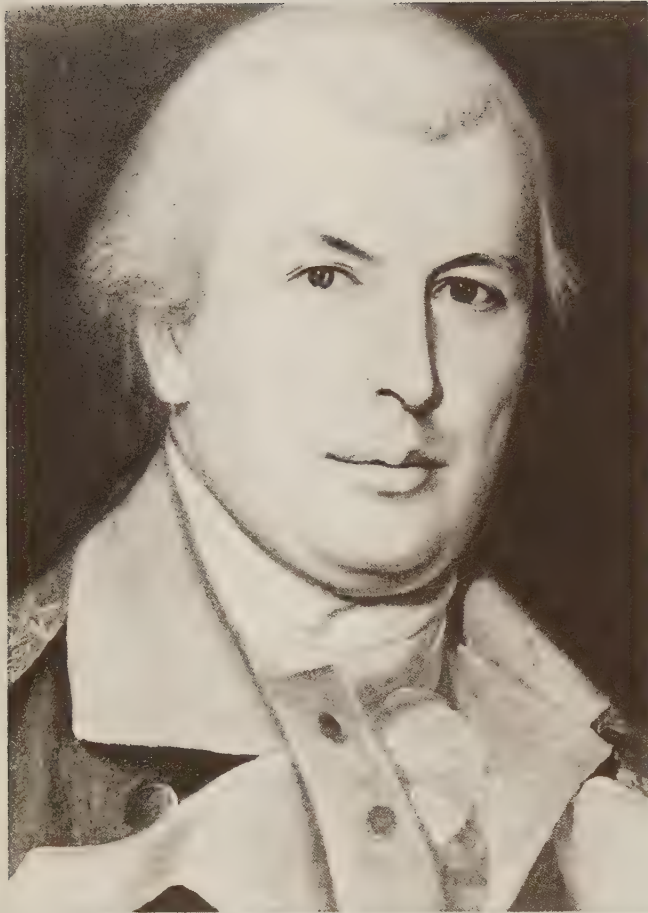
Piedmont settlers were a grassroots mixture of pioneer families from other states, many from Pennsylvania, some from Nantucket and elsewhere in the North. They built homes of logs, widely dispersed across fields and wood. Some few had musical instruments. In the evening it was common to invite neighbors in for conversation and music.

From the beginning, with few exceptions, Guilford settlers “got along” with each other, despite three different ethnic and religious strains, and two languages spoken—English and German.

After a generation or so, clubs were popular, even in those days. There were library, literary, and debating societies, and books were among the settlers' most prized possessions. Early Guilford libraries usually contained books on theology, philosophy, political economy, history, literature, law, and medicine. The settlers also read Greek and Roman writers as well as Shakespeare, Milton, Bacon, Locke, Voltaire, Swift, Addison, and Steele.

Toward the end of the eighteenth century, according to one historian, the area was visited by many exhibitors of natural and artificial curiosities, optical illusions, wax works, and scientific apparatuses, by singers, dancers, balancers, acrobats, and ventriloquists. There was, then, early evidence of the kind of cultural mecca Greensboro was later to become, particularly with the development of its five colleges, Greensboro, Guilford, Bennett, Immanuel Lutheran (now defunct), and John Wesley, and its two universities, now known as UNC-G and A & T State.

The gentleness of the land had attracted an especially gentle element in the Quakers, who felt strongly about freeing their slaves. At the North Carolina Yearly Meeting of the Society of Friends in 1772, they discussed “the sin of slavery.” In



General Nathanael Greene.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



The statue of General Greene in Guilford Court House National Park off Battleground Avenue marks his leadership of Revolutionary forces at the Battle of Guilford Court House, March 15, 1781.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett

1774, the Quakers in Guilford freed their own slaves. The Quaker influence, combined with the rising later of the educational institutions, and the establishment in the area of some prominent Jewish families with their own instincts for accommodation, inspired an accent on racial toleration that led later to some of the most harmonious interreligious and interracial relations to be found anywhere in the country.

The majority of the early white settlers, in any event, were scarcely prosperous enough to have owned slaves. Had they been that wealthy, they might not have moved to Guilford in the first place.

In 1754, in what is now Piedmont North Carolina, the entire black population, young and old, male and female, came to about five hundred according to W. L. Saunders in his *Colonial Records of North Carolina*. Just fifty-four Negroes lived in Guilford County. Guilford College in Greensboro soon developed a reputation of being liberal toward Negroes, so that by the early 1800s a considerable number of blacks came to live in the county. This sort of openness and acceptance played the major role in the founding in Greensboro of not one but three black institutions of higher learning, Bennett College in 1873, the Agricultural and Mechanical College (now A & T), in 1891, and Immanuel Lutheran College in 1905.

The famous Underground Railroad—a system of “agents,” “depots,” and “conductors” by which thousands of blacks who had escaped from slaveowners fled to freedom—was organized by the Coffins of Guilford County. It lasted from 1830 to 1860.

Another contributing factor to the area's unusual progressive flavor was the nearly fifty-fifty division of political power between Democrats and Whigs for a time prior to the Reconstruction Era, when Scalawags and Carpetbaggers predominated in North Carolina as elsewhere in the South.

The County of Guilford was created by an act of the North Carolina General Assembly in 1771, and named in honor of Lord North, Earl of Guilford, who was a Tory and Prime Minister to King George III. The county's population, now soaring toward four hundred thousand, was just 7,191 in the year 1790. By 1850 it had grown to only 19,754.

The area's claim to a chapter in the early annals of American history is rooted in the crucial Battle of Guilford Court House, on March 15, 1781, in which a British army under Lord Cornwallis defeated American colonists led by General Nathanael Greene, for whom the city of Greensboro

was subsequently named. What was chalked up as a martial victory for Cornwallis actually was a definitive loss for the British forces, since it left Cornwallis' troops in such a weakened condition that, when boxed in at Yorktown by General Washington and the French fleet, they had no choice but to surrender. “There never would have been an American victory at Yorktown if it hadn't been for the Battle of Guilford Court House,” historian MacLamroc asserts.

Greene's losses in the Battle of Guilford Court House were put at six percent killed, wounded, and missing of his total force of four thousand and Cornwallis' losses twenty-five percent of his 2,253 seasoned soldiers. “Such fighting,” said Cornwallis afterward, “I have never seen since God made me. Another such ‘victory’ would be my ruin.” At the suspension of the conflict, Greene retreated to Troublesome Creek Ironworks, north of present Greensboro in southern Rockingham County, and prepared for a second battle. Cornwallis chose not to fight again.

Greene, ironically, was excluded by the religious Society of Friends because of his military endeavors, but his greatest military success came in an area heavily populated by the very Quakers who had disowned him. After having survived years of war that claimed thousands of lives, without ever getting wounded, Greene died on June 19, 1786, of sunstroke.

The city for which General Greene served as namesake did not just happen. It was the product of determined and practical people seeking a seat for the young county. Sentiment had emerged in the early 1800s for the relocation of the courthouse from Martinville to a more central site. Commissioners for the removal of the county seat and the foundation of a new one were appointed. Among them was Nathan Mendenhall, who surveyed the county to determine its exact center. They fixed it “in the middle of a duck pond in a brush thicket,” where now rise the trees of east Fisher Park. This being an unsuitable location, the majority of commissioners settled upon the elevation closest to the center, a knoll 836 feet above sea level, at the present intersection of Market and Elm Streets.

The tract selected belonged to Ralph Gorrell, who had come from Northern Ireland in 1750 and served as a delegate to the North Carolina Constitutional Convention held in Halifax. In 1808 he furnished the land for Greensborough, forty-two acres centering on what is still the business heart of the city. The price was ninety-eight dollars.



Bird's eye view of Greensboro, 1891.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department

The legislative charter for the town of Greensborough was written in 1810. However, gaps in the records and regulations were not filled in until 1829. In that year the first regulatory code was set up for what was a town of 369 people. There were fines for just about everything: for bringing stud horses too near the courthouse; keeping wood, stone, or lumber in the two main streets; selling from carts; firing a gun or pistol; littering the streets; or watering a horse in a public fountain. A total of 160 dollars was obtained through taxes in that year by levying fifty cents each on 124 "taxables," ten cents per hundred dollars on 53,495 dollars worth of real estate, seven dollars each on five stores, two dollars and fifty cents each on three retail shops, and two dollars on "one stud horse around and standing in the place."

In one year in the 1840s, a great year for the natives but tough on visitors, the city's commissioners decreed "no tax upon real estate, polls, taverns and studs be levied this year, but the same tax as before on peddlers, circus riders, natural and artificial curiosities be continued."

Not until 1859 did Greensboro get its first mayor, courtesy of a statewide revision of town codes. He was Alexander P. Eckel, elected by 383 eligible voters among 1,400 inhabitants. Six commissioners remained to assist him.

Greensboro kept its designation as a town until 1870. At that point Mayor Robert M. (Uncle Bob) Sloan and his commissioners thought they might relabel the place a "city." "I think it sounds nice, and it can do no harm," said Uncle Bob, and a city it has been ever since. In the year it became one, however, it was only fourteenth in population in North Carolina. Concord, Henderson, and New Bern were among the places that surpassed it.

Today, Greensboro ranks second in population in the state at 162 thousand just after Charlotte (although Raleigh and Winston-Salem are almost neck and neck with Greensboro).

Greensboro's rise from a crossroads town in the mid-1800s to its prominence today in the South as a hallmark city of education, innovation, manufacturing, and government owes much to the contributions of pillar families.

Among these are: the Lindsays, early merchants and bankers; the Benbows, Quakers who settled in western Guilford and helped finance the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad and built hotels; the McAlisters, who provided the money and the initial drive for the Pilot Life Insurance Company and were early philanthropists to

Greensboro causes; and the Lathams, cotton merchants transplanted from Wayne County, builders of the King Cotton Hotel.

Others were: the Mendenhalls, businesspeople, physicians, and contributors to Guilford College; the Richardsons, developers of one of America's pharmaceutical giants (formerly the Vick Chemical Company, now Richardson-Merrell), the Smith Richardson Foundation, and the Center for Creative Leadership; the Cones, German emigrants who moved from Richmond to Jonesboro, Tennessee, to Baltimore to Greensboro and built a highly successful textile company which is now the world's largest producer of denim and corduroy, and magnanimous investors in the public good of The Gate City; the Sternbergers of South Carolina, who became cotton mill barons and worked with the Cones and were avid supporters of Greensboro arts activities; the Odells, organizers of the North Carolina Steel and Iron companies; the Moreheads, manufacturers, railroad promoters and a family that gave a governor to the state.

More families were: the Borens, developers of Pomona Terra Cotta clay products, Carolina Steel, and Boren Brick, and contributors to Wesley Long Hospital; the Lindleys, also associated with Pomona Terra Cotta, as well as with Lindley nurseries and small insurance companies; the McAdoos, owners and operators of the old McAdoo Hotel and large-scale real estate developers; the MacLamrocs, proprietors of the MacLamroc Mantel Company, dealers in building supplies, real estate developers, and guiding powers of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce.

Other families were: the Scaleses, who developed the affluent Irving Park and Starmount residential sections; the Grimsleys and the Prices were principal architects of the Jefferson-Standard Life Insurance Company; the Bryans, associated with the Price family by marriage and, with the Prices, contributors to the erection of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church; the Loves, the prime force behind the growth of Burlington Industries to its status as the world's largest manufacturer of textiles.

Great strides can also be traced to the founding of the Greensboro Chamber of Commerce by Julius Gray in 1877, one of the first chambers in the South and in the nation. Today, the Greensboro chamber counts more black members than belong to any other chamber in the nation, regardless of size, a total of over two hundred.

Educators such as Charles Duncan McIver, who led efforts to establish the State Normal and



The third sanctuary of Buffalo Presbyterian Church, erected in 1827, is of hand-made bricks manufactured by Jacob Albright.

On the corner of Church and Sixteenth Streets in the northeast quadrant of Greensboro, the church dates from 1756 and is the oldest church within the city limits. Its origin obviously predates not only the establishment of the city and the county but also the Declaration of Independence.

Buried in the church's graveyard are the Reverend Dr. David Caldwell, Buffalo's first pastor, and his wife, Rachel, as well as Colonel Daniel Gillespie, a veteran of the Revolutionary War.

Courtesy of Buffalo Presbyterian Church



Present buildings of Buffalo Presbyterian Church. The central portion is the third sanctuary, with portico added on. The David Caldwell building (1919), left, and the Rachel Caldwell building (1952), right, both educational units, flank the sanctuary.

Courtesy of Buffalo Presbyterian Church

Industrial School, now the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, also played an incalculable part in shaping the city.

The Cone family led the way in charting a philanthropic and public-spirited course followed by many wealthy Greensboro families.

Over the decades the Cones invested mightily in Greensboro. They built splendid YMCAs on company locations and helped start the Hayes-Taylor YMCA for blacks. With humanitarian motives beyond question, the Cones built mill villages that offered employees every conceivable benefit: low-cost housing, including water and electricity, coal, wood, and other fuels supplied at cost, and extremely low prices for food in company stores.

They started the Textile Bank for employees, which was later absorbed into the North Carolina Bank and Trust Company. Came the depression, North Carolina Bank and Trust felt the pinch and closed down on a restricted basis, even before the official bank holiday. But the members of the Cone family decided to see that all depositors in the Textile Bank and its successor, the Textile Branch, received full payment of the balances to which they were entitled. The Cone family put up upwards of three hundred thousand dollars to pay off the depositors. Those who put money in the Textile Branch lost not one dime during a depression in which thousands of banks went broke, and savings of hundreds of thousands were wiped out.

Congregations of every denomination in Greensboro were invited to build churches on Cone company land. Among those accepting were Baptists and Methodists. The company even assisted in building the churches, giving four dollars for every dollar raised by the congregations. And the Cones built homes for ministers.

When Mrs. Moses H. Cone died in 1947, she left millions of dollars for the establishment of a three hundred-bed hospital, the cornerstone for which was laid May 2, 1951. The facilities of Moses H. Cone Hospital were open to patients on February 25, 1953. The original cost was five and a half million dollars. Later additions to the hospital more than tripled the original cost. More than three hundred thousand people have been treated as inpatients at the hospital, and many times that number have received outpatient care. Much of the hospital's endowment has been spent on free care, education, research, and public services. Moses Cone Hospital is ranked as one of the major medical centers in the state, and for years has been affiliated with the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill School of Medicine as a teaching facility. It is the location of one of seven Area

Health Education Centers recently established in North Carolina.

A truly monumental asset, the hospital financed by the Cone family has meant that Guilford County stands today as the only major county in the state that has never had to vote public monies to build a hospital, or even add to one.

It would be hard to underestimate, too, the impact of Greensboro's churches on the development of neighborliness and accommodation of differences. Mention should be made especially of Buffalo Presbyterian Church, founded August 31, 1755, and of its most important offshoot, First Presbyterian Church, established October 3, 1824. Other important churches and their founding dates include: West Market Street United Methodist, 1831; First Baptist, 1859; St. Barnabas Episcopal (the parish that is now named Holy Trinity), 1871; St. Agnes Roman Catholic (now St. Benedict's), 1872. Although the Society of Friends had been prominent in the area since the 1790s, because Quakers went to home meetings elsewhere, the first Greensboro Meeting was not established until 1891. With a growing influx of Jewish families, the Greensboro Hebrew Congregation was formed in 1908.

Outstanding missionaries, preachers, and religious educators were produced by area churches, including the Reverend David Caldwell, profiled elsewhere in this volume for his direction of the famed Log Cabin College, the Reverends Jacob Henry Smith and John A. Redhead, longtime pastors of the First Presbyterian Church and the Reverend Jesse Jackson, who rose to a command post in the Civil Rights organization of Dr. Martin Luther King.

Of these and other dedicated men and women who over seventeen decades gave earnestly of their time, energies, and money to build Greensboro, it seems apt to recall the passage from Ecclesiasticus cited by Congressman Richardson Preyer in lauding the Bryan family during dedication ceremonies for Bryan Park Golf Course on May 20, 1971: "Let us now praise famous men—men renowned for their power, giving counsel by their understanding . . . leaders of the people by their counsels . . . rich men furnished with ability, living peaceably in their habitations. All these were honored in their generations, and were the glory of their times . . . These were merciful men, whose righteousness has not been forgotten . . . with their seed shall continually remain a good inheritance, and their children are within the Covenant . . . The people will tell of their wisdom, and the Congregation will shew forth their praise."



A Historical Chronology

This chronology of county history was prepared by James G. W. MacLamroc, Guilford County Historian.

- 1744 Germans settled in the eastern part of present Guilford County.
- 1745 Friedens Lutheran Church built.
- 1750 Quakers began to move into the western part of present Guilford County.
- 1753 Scotch-Irish purchased land between the Germans and Quakers.
- 1756 Buffalo Presbyterian Church founded about this date. Present building—the third—built in 1827.
- 1757 Centre Friends Meeting begun and organized as a monthly meeting 1773.
- 1757 Jamestown settled by Quakers.
- 1764 Alamance Presbyterian Church organized about this date. Synod of N. C. formed here 1813. Present building erected 1874.
- 1767 Dr. David Caldwell established his "Log College" Classical School.
- 1768 Birth of Dolley Payne Madison May 20.
- 1771 Guilford County was erected with Robert Lindsay's ballroom as temporary county seat.
- 1774 Guilford County's first court house was built and the county seat was named Guilford Court House.
- 1781 Battle of Guilford Court House was fought March 15.
- 1781 Skirmish March 6 between American forces under Col. O. H. Williams and British troops under Col. James Webster at Weitzel's Mill.
- 1785 County seat's name was changed from Guilford Court House to Martinville.

- 1787 Andrew Jackson was admitted to the bar in Guilford County.
- 1795 (or before) William Beard's Hat Shop begun at Jamestown.
- 1807 Legislative act was passed for creating Greensboro.
- 1808 42 acres of land was purchased for site of Greensboro
- 1809 Guilford county seat was moved from Martinville to Greensboro.
- 1810 Legislative charter was written for the town of Greensborough.
- 1816 Greensborough Male Academy was chartered.
- 1819 Birth of Calvin H. Wiley, 1st supt. of state schools, (d. 1887).
- 1820 Greensborough Female Academy was opened.
- 1824 First Presbyterian Church was organized.
- 1826 Levi Coffin, reputed head of "Underground Railroad" born about five miles north of Guilford College Station.
- 1828 Building of the first steam cotton mill (Mt. Hecla Mill) in North Carolina was started; 1833, it was opened for business.
- 1830 West Market Street United Methodist Church had its beginning.
- 1833 Greensboro College was started; 1837, was organized; 1838, was chartered; 1846, was opened.
- 1837 The municipality of Greensboro was granted a new charter and was enlarged to one square mile.
- 1837 New Garden Boarding School was opened; 1888, became Guilford College.

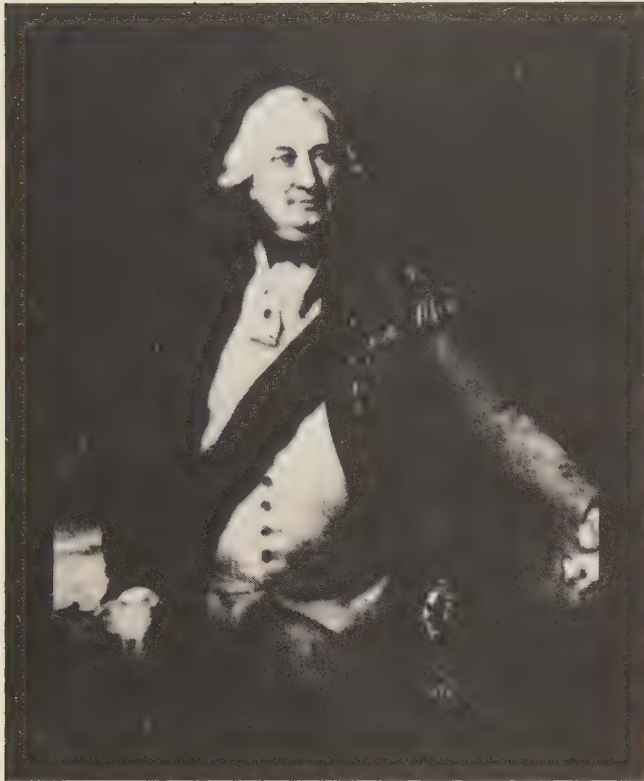


The Battle of Guilford Court House, March 15, 1781, from a sketch in *Harper's Weekly*.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett

- | | | | |
|------|--|------|---|
| 1841 | John Motley Morehead became governor of North Carolina. | | originated; 1888, was incorporated. |
| 1841 | Greensboro held its first public school. | 1877 | St. Agnes Roman Catholic Church was erected. |
| 1842 | Edgeworth Female Seminary was opened by John M. Morehead. | 1880 | The telephone was introduced into Greensboro. |
| 1843 | Manufacture of cigars, snuff, and plug tobacco was undertaken. | 1885 | Alfred Moore Scales became governor of North Carolina. |
| 1852 | Oak Ridge Institute (now Oak Ridge Military Institute). | 1886 | "General Greene"—1st steam fire engine in N.C. |
| 1853 | Calvin H. Wiley became first N. C. Superintendent of Common Schools. | 1887 | Electricity first lighted the business and nearby residential sections of the city. |
| 1856 | First train rolled into Greensboro on the North Carolina Railroad January 29. | 1888 | Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley Railroad, running through Greensboro, was completed from Wilmington, North Carolina, to Mt. Airy. |
| 1859 | The Greensboro Baptist Church was organized. | 1890 | Northwestern Railroad Company opened a track from Greensboro to North Wilkesboro. |
| 1862 | William Sydney Porter, known as O. Henry, was born. | 1890 | <i>Greensboro Record</i> was first published as <i>The Daily Record</i> . |
| 1862 | Piedmont Railroad, connecting Greensboro with Danville, Virginia, was authorized; 1864, was completed. | 1891 | Charters were granted for State Normal and Industrial School (now UNC-G) and A & M (now A & T) College. |
| 1865 | First Presbyterian Church became emergency hospital for Confederate soldiers wounded in the Battle of Bentonville. | 1891 | Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends was organized. |
| 1865 | Jefferson Davis and Cabinet in Greensboro and Johnston paroled troops here. | 1891 | City of Greensboro was enlarged to 4 square miles. |
| 1869 | St. Barnabas Episcopal Church was organized. | 1893 | First step taken in Greensboro toward Cone Mills Corporation. |
| 1870 | The Town of Greensboro became the City of Greensboro. | | |
| 1873 | Bennett College had its beginning. | | |
| 1875 | First graded public school (Lindsay Street School) opened. Graded schools for both black and white children were opened the same year. | | |
| 1877 | Greensboro Chamber of Commerce was | | |

Courtesy of James G. W. MacLamroc



Portrait of Lord Cornwallis, British general at the Battle of Guilford Court House. After the 1786 battle, Cornwallis was assigned to a post in India.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



Positions of combatants at the Battle of Guilford Court House.

*Adapted from a sketch in the
Greensboro Daily News, May 29, 1971*



Area youth dressed in British soldier garb fire the cannon at Guilford Court House in a recent commemoration of the battle.

Courtesy of Guilford Battleground Museum

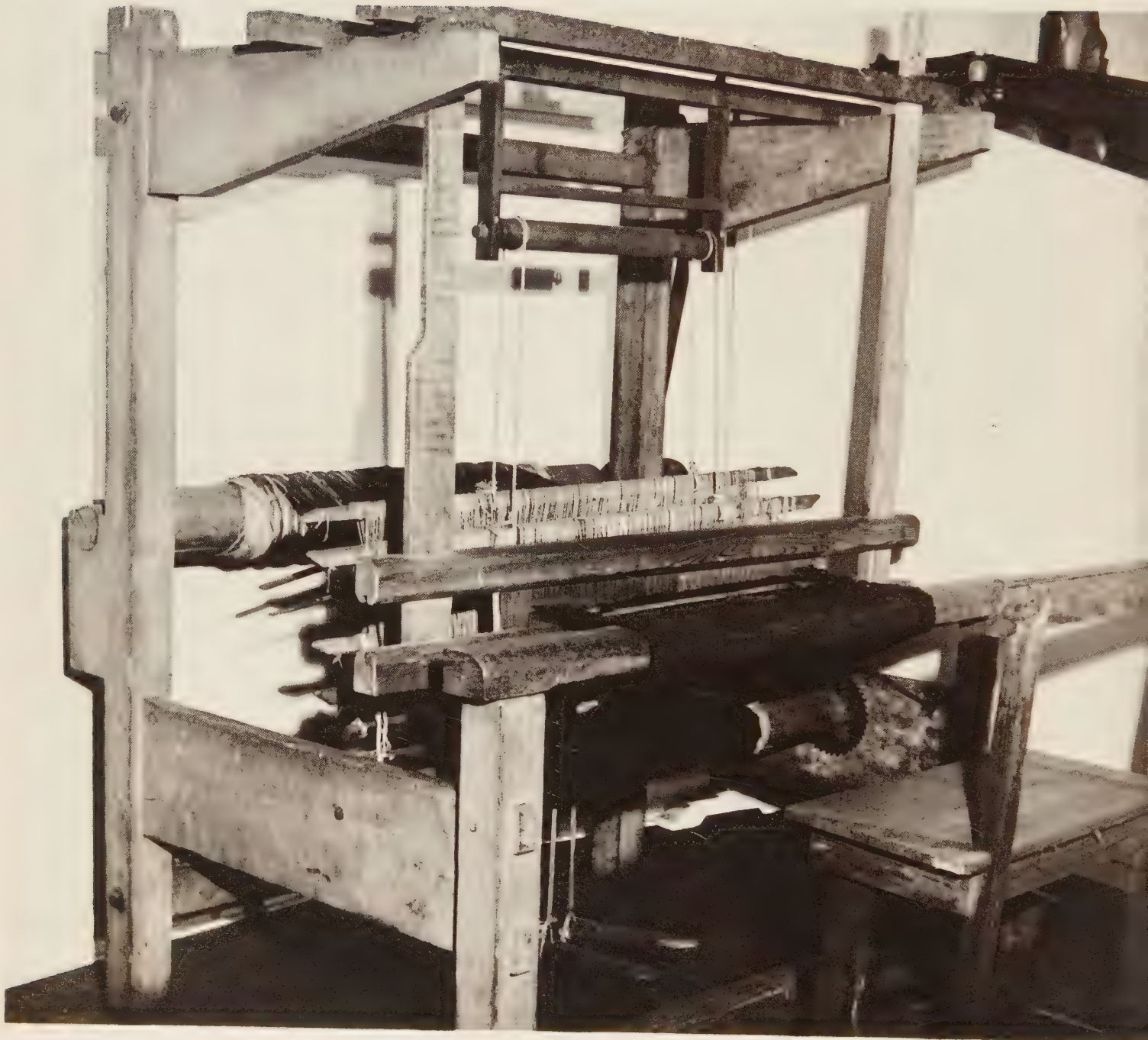
"Peter Francisco—Hercules of the American Revolution," in a photograph of the portrait presented by District Attorney Edmund Denis, Massachusetts. The original painting hangs in the Executive Mansion, Richmond, Virginia.

A local hero of the bloody Battle of Guilford Court House was the county's own Peter Francisco of Virginia, a giant of a soldier who reportedly slew eleven British soldiers with his own broadsword. He used a five-foot sword especially made for him upon orders of General William Washington.

The 6-foot-6, 260-pound Francisco is said to have been so strong as to hold his 190-pound schoolmaster hanging from one outstretched arm. Once he dislodged a wagon moored in mud that six mules pushing together had been unable to budge. At Camden, during the Revolutionary War, he carried a half-ton cannon after the horses assigned to draw it had been killed.

After the war, he retired to his native Virginia, outlived two wives, was named Sergeant-at-Arms of the Virginia General Assembly in 1825, and died in 1831 with dignitaries from throughout Virginia flocking to his funeral.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



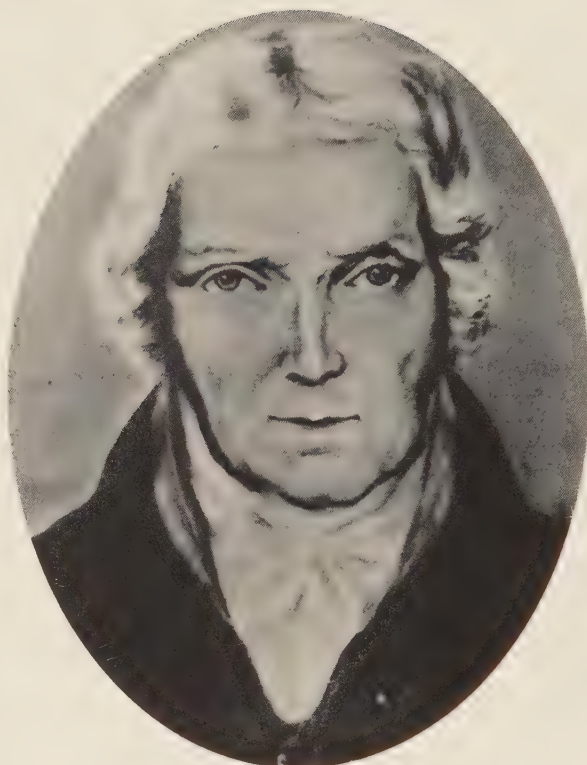
This loom, such as used by early settlers in Guilford, is said to have been in a house where Cornwallis spent the first night after he left Guilford Battleground.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



Margaret Gillespie, wife of Daniel Gillespie, early Guilford County settlers.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum

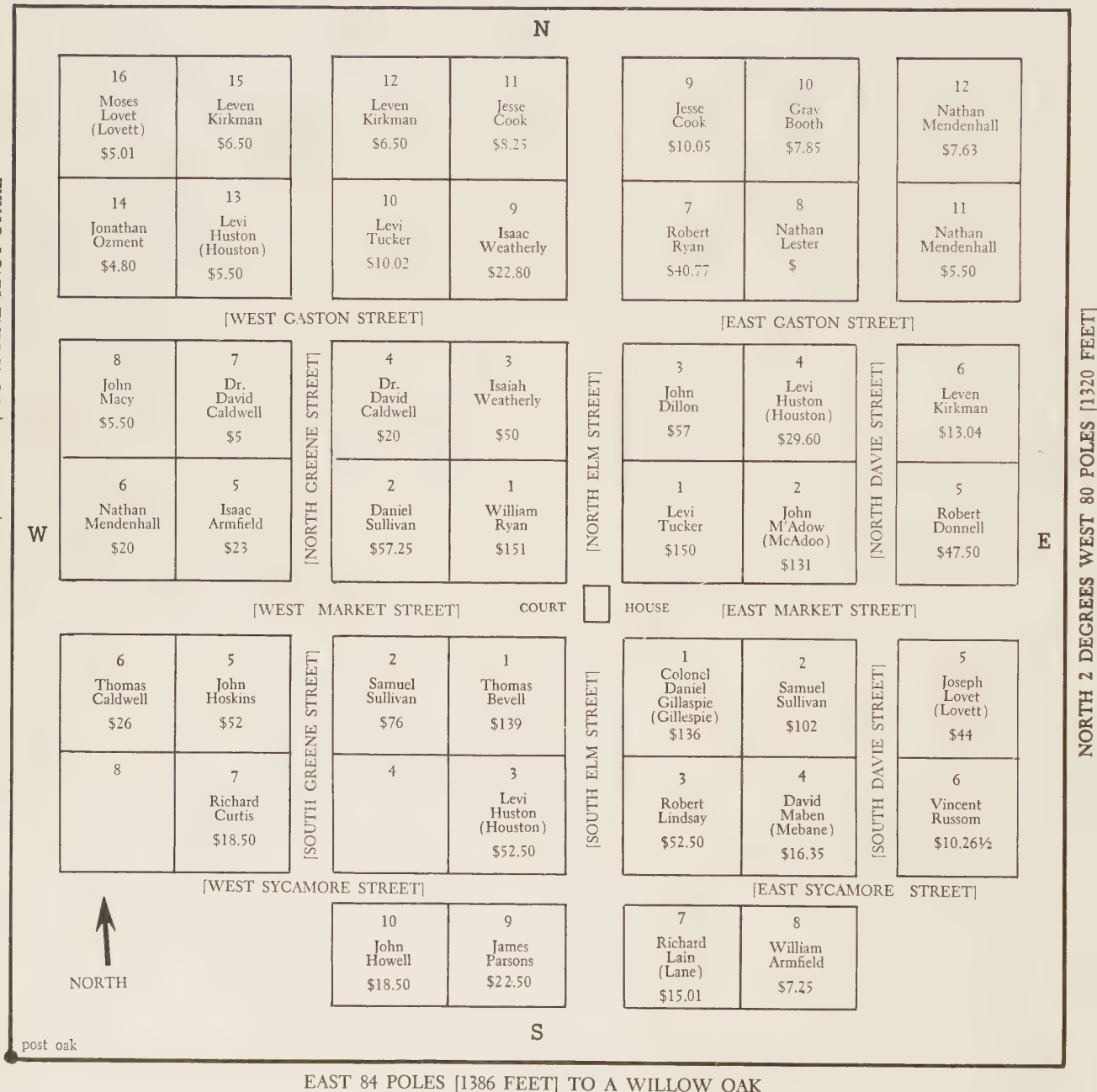


Colonel Daniel Gillespie (1743-1829), an early settler of Guilford County—patriot, revolutionary leader, and statesman.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum

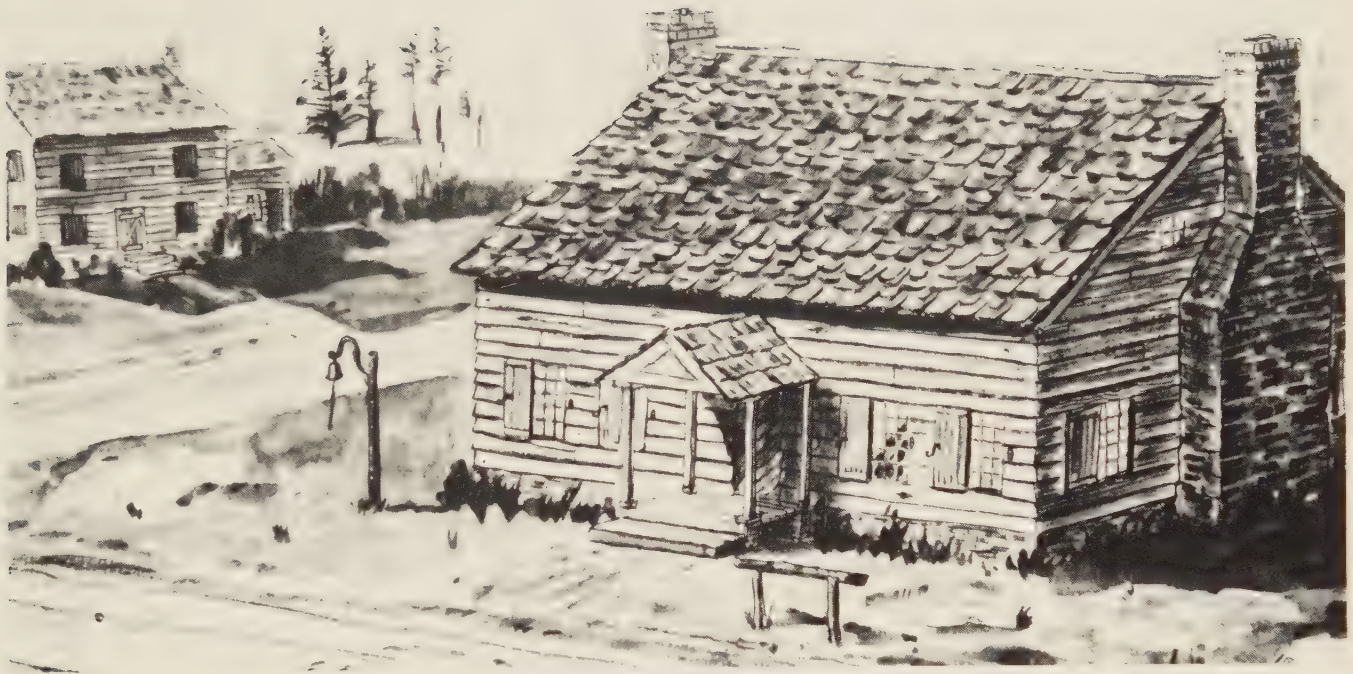
NORTH 2 DEGREES WEST 80 POLES [1320 FEET] TO A PINE KNOT STAKE

EAST 84 POLES [1386 FEET] TO A PINE KNOT STAKE



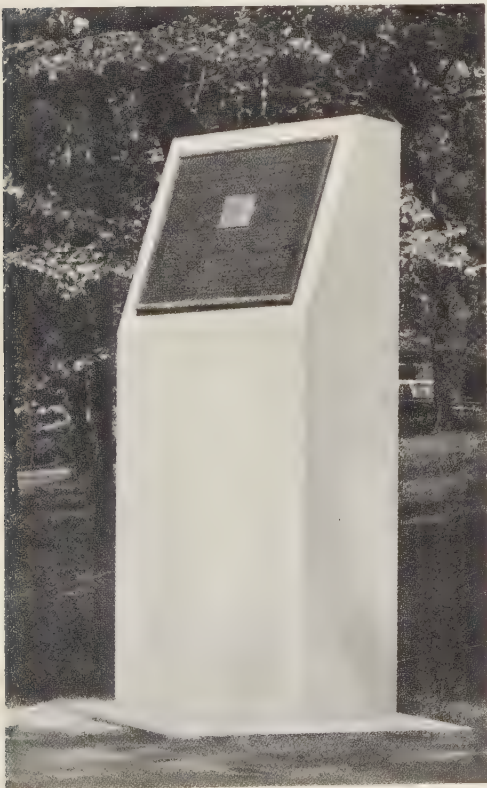
Plat of the original village of Greensborough (with names of the purchasers of the lots inserted).

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



Artist's rendering of the first Guilford Court House, which was built in 1774.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



"The Genesis Monument," east Fisher Park, designating the exact center of Guilford County for the purpose of creating Greensboro as the county seat.

Courtesy of James G. W. MacLamroc

Dolley Madison, the wife of the fourth president of the United States, was born on May 20, 1768 to John Payne and his wife, the former Mary Coles, both of Virginia, in the Quaker settlement of New Garden, just outside Greensboro. One year later the Paynes and their children moved back to Virginia. Dolley first married John Todd, Jr., an established lawyer and a Quaker of Philadelphia. Her first husband died of yellow fever in 1793. Aaron Burr introduced a fellow Congressman, James Madison, Jr., to the widow Todd in May 1794 and the pair were married the following September.

Dolley Madison had a reputation as a woman who showered love on everyone. She cherished her second husband and couldn't stand to be separated from him. In the Madison's forty-two years of marriage, she was apart from James only three weeks. Mrs. Madison was adept at discussing the nation's most serious issues. It was during her famous dinners and tea parties that Washington officials sometimes decided their positions on pending legislation.

After James Madison's death, the Greensboro-born widow fell on hard financial times. Her money worries were assuaged in 1848 when Congress purchased many of her husband's papers. One year later she was dead in her Washington home.

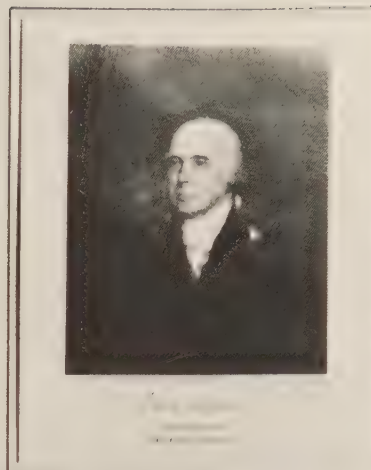
Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



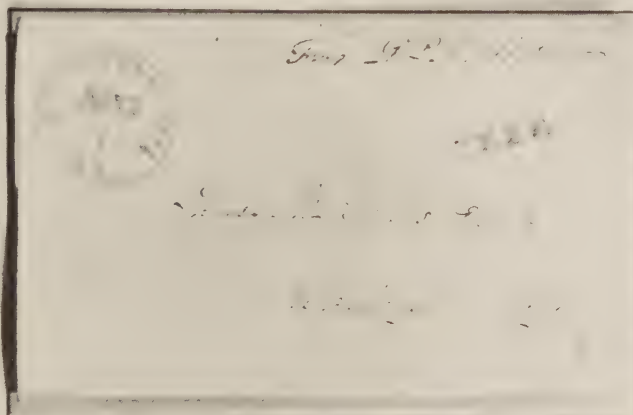
The Dolley Madison birthplace memorial was restored to original specifications and located next to the McNairy House on the museum grounds.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



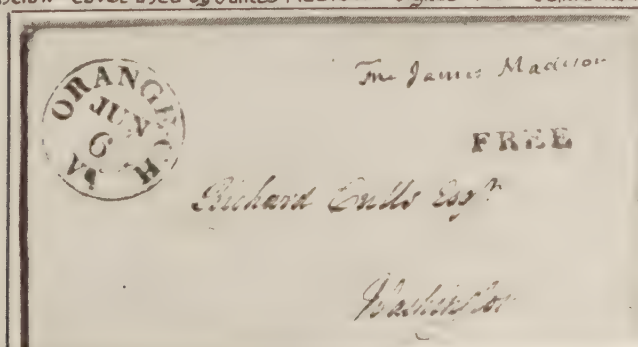


Ye 20th of May 1768,
Dolley Payne was born to
Quaker parents three miles west of
the present city limits of Greensboro.



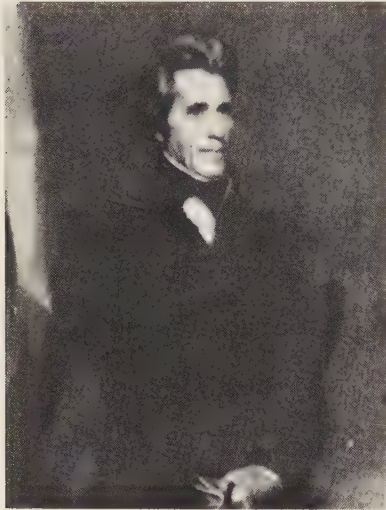
Destined to become the wife of James Madison the fourth President of the United States, she was to reign for sixteen years at the nation's head.

Above - Cover used by Dolley Payne Madison, signed "Free", "D. P. Madison."
Below - Cover used by James Madison, signed "Free", "James Madison".



Above: Photographs of likenesses of Dolley and James Madison. Below: Two envelopes signed "Free D. P. Madison" and "Free James Madison." Free postage is a privilege granted to current and former Presidents.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



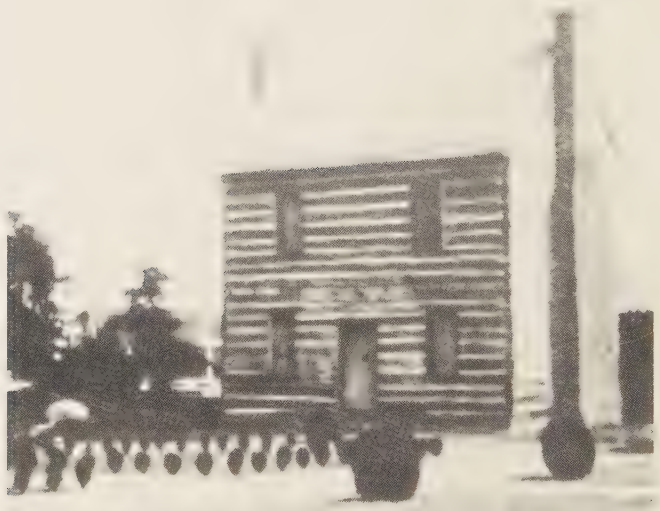
Andrew Jackson.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



The McNairy House on its original site four miles north of the present city limits and one mile from old Guilford Courthouse site—where Jackson received his license to practice law in North Carolina on November 20, 1787. Family tradition says Jackson lived in the McNairy home.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



Mary Lynn Richardson Park, Lindsay Street. The log cabin is the restored Frances McNairy house, 1762-1862, which displays both passive beautification and the historical project. The park of 1.2 acres is the site of the old Lindsay Street School, the first permanent graded school in North Carolina, and is adjacent to the Greensboro Historical Museum.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department

THE PATRIOT

GREENSBOROUGH,

Saturday Morning, April 5, 1845.

This week we commence our seventh volume of the Patriot. Six years have we labored in our vocation; and we enter upon the seventh, schooled by some lessons of experience, and chastened by the disappointments of the past. The retrospect is in some respects gloomy, and in others pleasant. The position of the Editor is responsible—and also influential. It must be admitted, in a degree more than corresponding to his talent.—This is sufficient gratification to his self-complacency, if he possess no more than his share of that *modesty* for which the craft is *proverbial*.—After all his just complaints about defaulting patrons and a lean purse, there is a degree of enjoyment in the conduct of a village paper. Without mingling in the great world, its stirring and multifarious events are passing constantly in review before his mind. For the most part removed from their more immediate and exciting influence, he may contemplate the occurrences of the world with a calm eye, and draw from them lessons to communicate in his circle with pleasure to himself and profit to others.

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Detail from a page of *The Patriot* published in Greensborough. This issue is dated April 5, 1845.

The *Greensborough Patriot*, a famous North Carolina newspaper that was ushered out of business in an acquisition by the *Greensboro Daily News* in 1941, is said to have begun publication in 1821. It was when William Swaim took over editorship of this weekly in 1829 that the paper truly became a beacon for the South. Swaim was a fearless advocate of freedom of speech and of press and early on began to rail against the evils of slavery. Swaim died in 1835. In 1839 Lyndon Swaim (a distant cousin of William Swaim) took over as editor and for the next fifteen years kept the publication on a high plane of broadminded liberality toward every race and creed. After the reign of Lyndon Swaim, the paper changed hands frequently but was never again so distinguished as it was under the Swaims.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum

AN
ADDRESS

TO THE PEOPLE OF
NORTH CAROLINA,
ON THE EVILS OF
SLAVERY.

BY
The friends of
LIBERTY AND EQUALITY.

"Anne, liceat invitos in servitutem dare."—DR. PICKARD.
"Not only the Christian religion, but nature herself cries out against a state of slavery!"—POPE LEO. X.

WILLIAM SWAIM PRINTER.
Greensborough, N. C.
1830

Handbill announcing a declamation against slavery, printed by Swaim.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett





THE CIVIL WAR

Though four years of bloody strife (1861-1865) had brought no battle to Greensboro, the town of 1,600 inhabitants narrowly missed serving as the site for a final clash of Confederate and Union armies.

Confederate dying and less seriously wounded from the battle of Bentonville, some fifty miles south of Raleigh, poured into Greensboro for treatment. Churches and private homes were converted into makeshift hospitals. Every piece of old linen was turned into a bandage, and rags were used as blankets.

To ward off an expected attack on Greensboro by Union General William T. Sherman with his tactics of destruction and pillage, Confederate troops from Virginia were shipped into Greensboro by rail. Bunkworks and lookout towers were erected.

The surrender of General Robert E. Lee to General Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865, however, made what might have been called "the Battle of Greensboro" unnecessary.

Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederacy, fleeing south from his overrun capital of Richmond with his cabinet, spent five days in Greensboro, quartered in a railroad car. Here he met with General Joseph E. Johnston and agreed to let Johnston negotiate a military armistice with the Union's General Stoneman, which Johnston did soon thereafter near Durham. The Guilford County seat, therefore, served, however briefly, as a temporary capital of the Confederacy and a temporary capital of North Carolina. Davis continued his southward flight while Johnston went to meet Sherman.

Train on the line between Richmond and Greensboro during the Civil War. Both guns and butter for the southern troops moved by rail.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnold





James Bennett's House, near Durham, where Confederate General Johnston surrendered to Union General Sherman and prevented an assault on Greensboro.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



Occupying Union forces paroling Rebel prisoners at Greensboro.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett





EARLY YEARS

Mule-drawn carriages and cattle auctions were a common sight in the Greensboro of the late nineteenth century. The first electric streetcars appeared in 1902 and ran until 1934. In that year they were replaced by electrically powered trolley buses, which in turn gave way to diesel powered buses in 1956.

Residents rode streetcars to Lindley Park to sit on the grass and hear bands or for boating or whirls on the ferris wheel. Trains took residents to Guilford Battleground each Fourth of July for a day of picnics, speeches, music, and martial drills.

A post-Civil War dance craze led to frequent "big dances" at the Odd Fellows Hall downtown.

Churches, however, were the center of much social as well as spiritual life in the city. People went to hear not only the Gospel preached but to catch up on small talk and neighborhood goings on. In between there were house raisings, wood chopping, log rollings, quilting bees, corn shuckings, and community sings with box lunches for the listeners.

Up until the close of the Civil War, few female residents had the time to spend much money on fine apparel. All the women learned to card and spin and knit. One patriotic wartime southern song went: "My homespun dress is plain, I know, my hat's palmetto, too; but then they show what Southern girls for Southern rights will do."

Elm Street, north of Jefferson Square, in the eighties, during a cattle auction. The smaller building on the right, 106 North Elm Street, was where Stephen A. Douglas met David S. Reid for a conference that led to the rebirth of the Democratic party in North Carolina during the mid-1800s.

Courtesy of UNC-G



A laundry without running water around 1893.

Courtesy of UNC-G

Residence of J. A. Odell, founder of Odell Hardware Company, East Washington Street, Greensboro, series of 1882. J. A. Odell was president of the North Carolina Steel and Iron Company, chartered in 1887. When the Cone brothers appeared in the city in the 1890s to look over Greensboro's prospects as a manufacturing center, J. A. Odell is said to have remarked: "Grab hold of their coattails, boys, and don't let them get away."

Courtesy of Greensboro College



NOTICE.

Greensboro' N. C., Dec. 29, 1860.

Be it Ordained by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Greensborough, That all persons from the city of Columbia, S. C., or from any other place in the State, or any adjoining State, infected with Small Pox, are prohibited from coming into the town of Greensboro', under a penalty of \$50, to be collected from any person in such case offending. And if any person from any place so infected, and not being informed of this ordinance, shall come into the town of Greensboro', he shall be required to depart immediately, under penalty of \$10 for every hour he shall stay after being informed.

This Ordinance to be in force until the danger of such infection shall subside.

A. P. ECKEL, Mayor.

1860 notice to those with smallpox to stay out of town on pain of fine.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



Artist's sketch of Edgeworth Female Seminary, circa 1860.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



This board fence marked the eastern boundary of the State Normal and Industrial School (now UNC-G) in 1893.

Courtesy of UNC-G



One of the boys' cottages at Guilford College in a photo taken no later than 1893. Herbert Reynolds is at left, Elwood Reynolds at right. This cottage was probably built for B. Lundy and E. Reynolds.

Courtesy of Guilford College



Ox-drawn cart along Spring Garden Street about 1893. In the background is the Administration Building of the State Normal and Industrial College, later UNC-G.

Courtesy of UNC-G



The old Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley railroad station and wood-burning engine with inset of the residence of Ralph Gorrell, II, grandson of Ralph Gorrell the settler, which became a railroad office building. Late 1800s.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



Jefferson Square around 1900. This picture shows old Guilford County Courthouse before the Jefferson Standard Building was built on the same spot.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



In the background of this scene on South Elm Street is the first lighthouse shaped water tank, owned by Southern Railway.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



Davie Street, looking north from the wholesale house of Justice Drug Company.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



Greensboro Centennial

The Greensboro Centennial—1808-1908. From October 11 to October 17 of 1908 the city was filled with races, games, daily parades, oratory, concerts, and opera. Greensboro and Confederate Veterans Day, held on Friday, October 16, was a holiday for the entire city and the biggest day of the Centennial. Confederate veterans were assigned places of honor in the day's parade. The New York All-Star Quartet provided the concert, with selections from Verdi, Rossini, Wagner, Gounod, and Handel. Headquarters for the Centennial was the Benbow Arcade on South Elm Street.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum









Here an early nineteenth century steam engine chugs past Guilford Battleground. At the time there was a station at nearby Guilford College.

Courtesy of Guilford Battleground Park



The Sergeant Manufacturing Company's foundry, machine shops, and side tracks in the early 1900s. The company thrived on producing turbine water wheels, completed saw mills, and other foundry and machine-shop products, selling its wares from Maryland to Florida. The company no longer exists.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



President Cleveland greets crowds from the rear of the train as he passes through Greensboro. Huffine's Hotel is in the background.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library

The Railroad

In old Greensboro the railroad station was the center of the community, a monument to people's expectations of growth and prosperity. Oratory and barbeque marked the initiation of the North Carolina Railroad roadbed laying in Greensboro on July 11, 1851.

John Motley Morehead of Greensboro, a former governor, was president of the new railroad, for which he had fought long and vigorously. His vision was expressed in a letter he read in a Goldsboro meeting: "It is truly the great redeeming improvement that is to make us one people—one state—one great community. The Road must be built."

The line opened on January 29, 1856. Cheering and singing mixed with the bellowing of engines as the first two trains chugged into Greensboro. Starting from Goldsboro, one train rolled across the coastal plain to Raleigh and Hillsboro, then on into Greensboro. The other train came north from Charlotte.

As he fled southward during the waning days of the Confederacy, Jefferson Davis spent part of a stay in Greensboro in a leaky boxcar in the rail yards.

By the 1880s enough tracks snaked out of Greensboro to make its citizens boast of being the "Gate City of the South." The name has held.

The present station in Greensboro, built at the cost of one million dollars, was erected in the 1920s, part of the flowering of "greater Greensboro," in which the station joined an airport and new thoroughfares.

In mid-April of 1945, a large crowd gathered in the night to hail the passing of a northbound train bearing the coffin of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who died on April 12.

Passenger travel by train sagged in the 1950s and 1960s until by the mid-1970s, the Southern Railroad had cut all but two mainline trains through Greensboro. One, however, the elegant Southern Crescent with its gleaming stainless steel cars, a plush diner, and a dome car, still evokes the magic and mystery of railroading as it slides into Greensboro on its New York-New Orleans run.



Greensboro's police force, 1903-1904.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



South Elm Street at railroad tracks, during William Jennings Bryan campaign, circa 1900.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



The old railroad station, around the turn of the century, and a group of laborers, probably there to patch the roadbed, and observers.

Courtesy of The Mantelworks

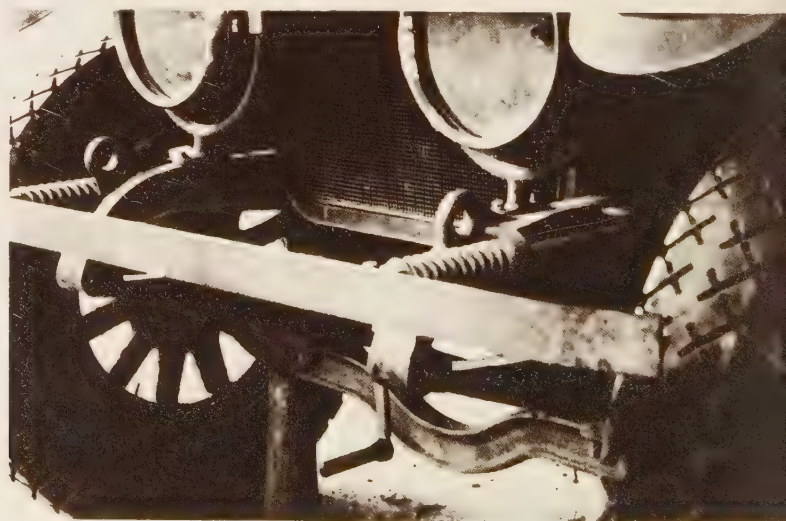


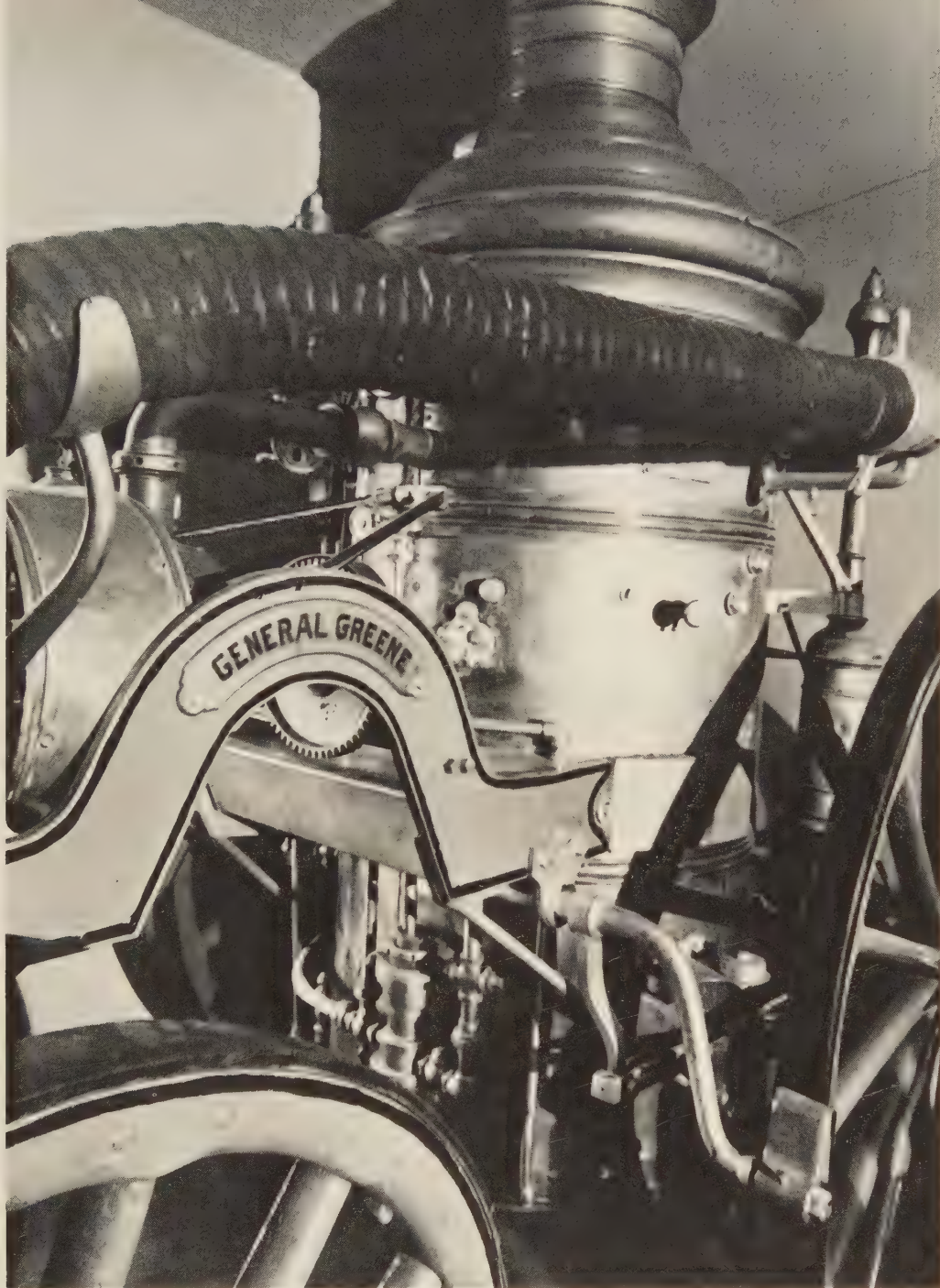
Eagle Hose Company of the Greensboro Fire Department in 1895.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett

Fire truck on display at Greensboro Historical Museum.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department





"General Greene," the first steam fire engine in North Carolina. Formerly used by the Greensboro Fire Department, it is now on display in the Greensboro Historical Museum.

Photo by Jeff Wayman



Elm Street in the late 1800s.

Courtesy of The Mantelworks





Hotel Benbow, on the northwest corner of Elm and Sycamore Streets, was opened to guests in 1902. Charles D. Benbow, who had managed the Benbow House in Greensboro for his father for eleven years, had the hotel built with polished oak floors and 132 spacious rooms. The *Greensboro Record* noted that ten persons could be accommodated per room for a total of over 1,200 guests, who did not seem to mind crowding. It was the first hotel in Greensboro to be fitted with telephones. It also had iron beds, eighty-four private baths, dance halls, parlors, and a rooftop promenade of 1,300 square feet.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum

Old Court Square, now known as Jefferson Square, looking south down Elm Street at Market. On the southeast corner (near left) stood the old post office. On the northeast corner rose the Fisher Building, now known as the Southeastern Building. The Greensboro Drug Building stood on the northwest corner (upper right). Scene in the 1920s.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett







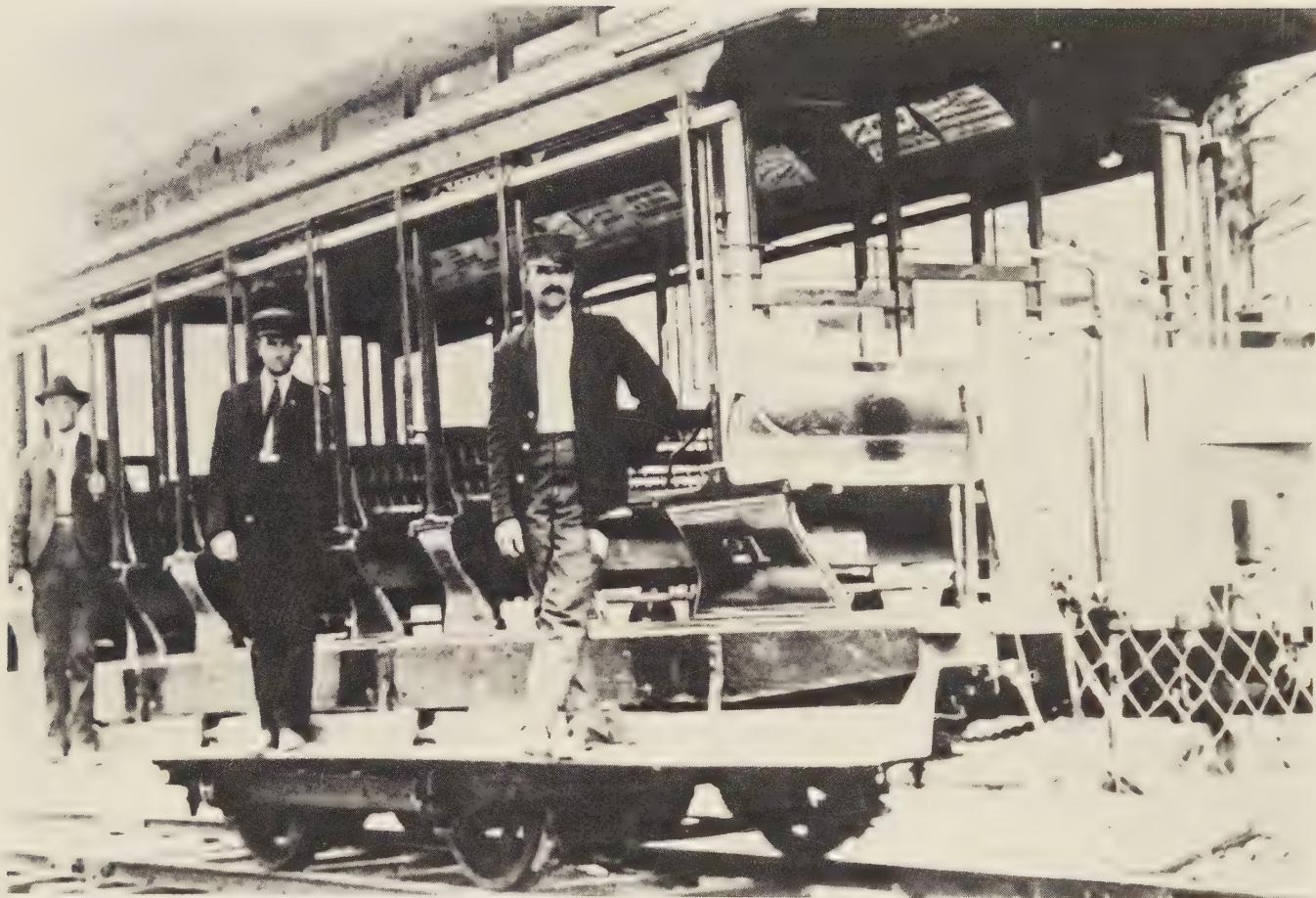


Peabody Park about 1907. It now borders the golf course on the western edge of the UNC-G campus.

Courtesy of UNC-G

Built in 1919 on the southwest corner of Bellemeade and Elm Streets, the O. Henry Hotel, honoring Guilford County's famed native son, was considered Greensboro's first "modern" hotel. It had a continuously lighted oil portrait of O. Henry in its lobby. The O. Henry occupied the old homesite of Clement G. Wright, who led a citizens' group in selling local stock to build the hostelry. Within six weeks of its opening, so many guests besieged its handsome wood-paneled lobby that hotelers had to take over an adjoining tobacco warehouse and convert it into an annex. In the 1950s the O. Henry was still considered one of the finest hotels in the state. Harder times for Greensboro's downtown and the erection of modern motels helped to close the O. Henry's doors for good in 1975.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



Summer trolley with conductor, driver, and passenger, early 1900s. North Carolina Public Service Company.

Courtesy of Duke Power Company



Special bus, North Carolina Public Service Company, in 1925.

Courtesy of Duke Power Company



Conductors pose in front of their trolley, early 1920s.

Courtesy of Duke Power Company



This picture looking north from East Market Street just down from Elm Street, probably dating from around 1910, shows the Alderman and Eutsler photographers studio. The Bank of North Carolina presently stands on this location. Notice how close single-family residences were to the heart of downtown Greensboro in those days.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum





PLACES AND FACES

Churches, theaters, construction, demolition and reconstruction...all are hallmarks of Greensboro's growth.

The railroad, which, in typical urban fashion bisects the city, played a major role in Greensboro's development. The main station served as a rallying point for speechmakers of all brands. Whistle-stopping politicians, including Presidents, campaigned at the station. Among Presidents who came through Greensboro on such missions were Grover Cleveland, Teddy Roosevelt, and William Howard Taft. More recently Lady Bird Johnson arrived on a campaign train to tout her husband's Presidential candidacy.

Transportation inside the city itself made transitions from mule-cart and horseback to electric streetcars (1902-1934) to electric-powered trolley buses to the present system of reliance upon private autos, supplemented by gas-burning buses.

Planners designed wide, curving thoroughfares such as Wendover, Benjamin Parkway, and Summit Avenue that put Greensboro out in front of its traffic problems and made "rush hour" commuting a breeze.

In an effort to revitalize a "dying" downtown, Greensboro's central business area was renamed "uptown" and, under Mayor Jim Melvin's supervision, all neon and other signs overhanging Elm Street were hauled down in 1971 and the curbs restructured to create a "semi-mall."

Though the pace of the city quickened and it tripled in size from the close of World War II to the mid-1970s, yet Greensboro appeared to retain the flavor of the friendly, cosmopolitan North Carolina town it has always been.

Miss Edith McIntyre, teacher of Domestic Science, and Miss Melville Fort, teacher of Industrial Arts, around 1893.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Farmerettes, students at North Carolina College for Women (now UNC-G), hoed the corn and threshed the wheat during the summer of 1918, World War I.

Courtesy of UNC-G



North Carolina College for Women (now UNC-G)
students pitch hay during the summer of 1918,
World War I.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Oxomobile, near Greensboro in the 1890s.

Courtesy of UNC-G





From left: 1916 Ford Touring Car, 1906 Cadillac Roadster, 1926 Ford Deluxe Limousine, all on display at Greensboro Historical Museum.

Photo by Jeff Wayman



Lake Brandt reservoir, north of the city, near Summerfield.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



A farm near Greensboro around the turn of the century.

Courtesy of UNC-G



On April 23, 1912, after speaking to a group of Greensboro citizens, Colonel Theodore Roosevelt was taken to the State Normal College where he spoke to seven hundred students. He is shown here standing on the steps of the Administration Building. State Normal College President Julius I. Foust is standing on Roosevelt's right.

Courtesy of UNC-G



St. Leo's Hospital, its cornerstone laid in 1904, was run by the Sisters of Charity at this Summit Avenue location. It was converted into Notre Dame Catholic High School in 1955 and continued as such until 1968, when the high school ceased operations. Less than two years later the building was demolished.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



The original building of the L. Richardson Memorial Hospital, which opened its doors in 1927 at Washington Street and Benbow Road to serve the black community.

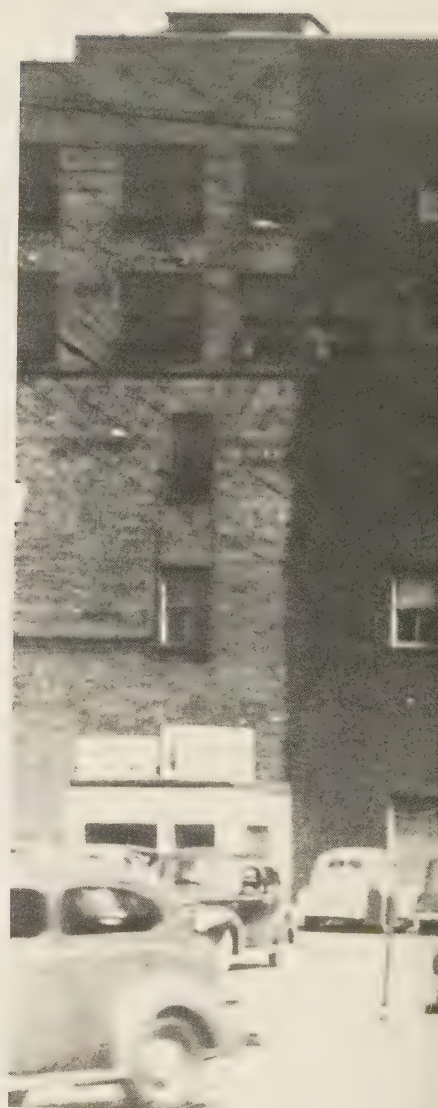
Courtesy of Ethel Arnett





Looking south on Tate Street from Walker Avenue.
UNC-G Brown Music Building is shown under
construction, early 1900s.

Courtesy of Duke Power Company





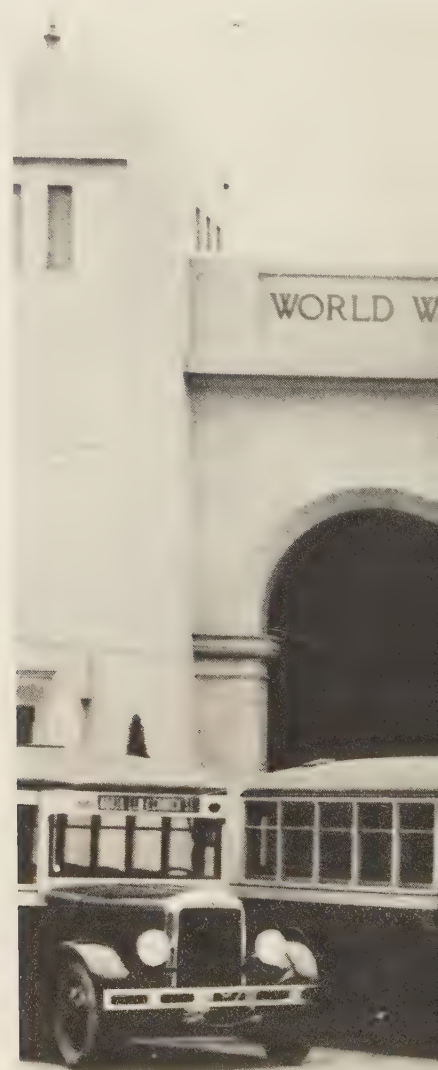
Looking north on Elm Street at intersection of
Gaston Street (now Friendly Avenue).

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



Looking north on Tate Street from Walker Avenue,
early 1900s.

Courtesy of Duke Power Company





Entrance to World War I Memorial Stadium on
Bagley (now Yanceyville) Street, 1920s.

Courtesy of Duke Power Company





Elm Street bustling with traffic in the 1930s.
Courtesy of Duke Power Company





Temple Emanuel, spiritual home to the city's Jewish families.

Courtesy of Temple Emanuel



Interior of the third building occupied by the First Presbyterian Church. This building now houses the Greensboro Historical Museum.

Courtesy of First Presbyterian Church

First Presbyterian Church, the fourth and current building. Dedicated October 6, 1929, it was built at a total cost of 750 thousand dollars. The Richardson family made a substantial contribution to its construction.

Courtesy of First Presbyterian Church







Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church, on West Market Street, said by some to be one of the most beautiful neo-Gothic Catholic Churches in America, was erected in 1953. A gift from the Price and the Bryan families was instrumental in the church's erection.

Courtesy of Our Lady of Grace Catholic Church



First Baptist Church, West Market and Eugene, built about 1907. The building was later owned by the congregation of First Lutheran Church; it was demolished in the early 1970s.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



Present home of First Baptist Church on West Friendly Avenue, photographed in 1960.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department

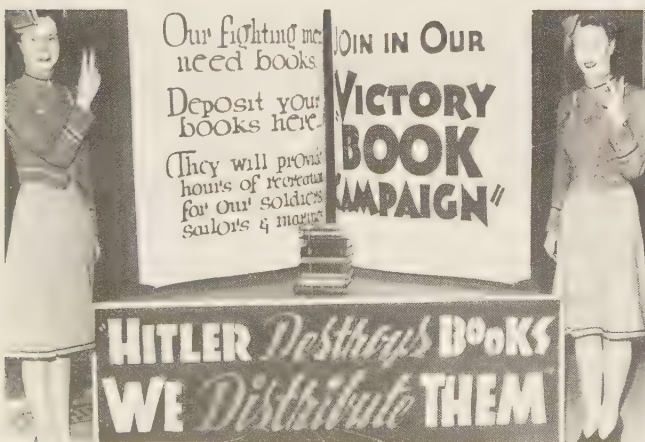


"Sports Day," 1942.

Courtesy of UNC-G

A Woman's College student in the 1940s, when feeding jukeboxes was even then a popular pastime.

Courtesy of UNC-G



National Theatre, receiving station for Victory Book Campaign.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



Major George E. Preddy, World War II air ace from Greensboro, in his P-51D "Cripes A'Mighty 3rd." Major Preddy flew combat with the 352nd Fighter Group, Eighth Air Force, from the fall of 1943 until

his death in action December 25, 1944. He shot down thirty-two enemy aircraft.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



1948, North Elm Street looking south at Bellemeade.
Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



During the razing of parts of Greensboro for reconstruction in the late 1940s and early 1950s, several buildings were burned and used for training of the Greensboro Fire Department's new firemen.
Courtesy of Greensboro Redevelopment Commission

"The Lady Bird Special" visits UNC-G in October 1964.

Courtesy of UNC-G



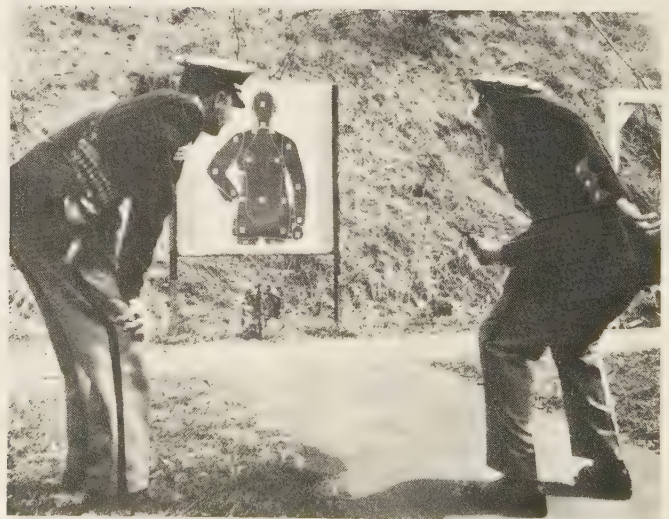
The ice storm of 1953 fells a tree on the Greensboro College campus.

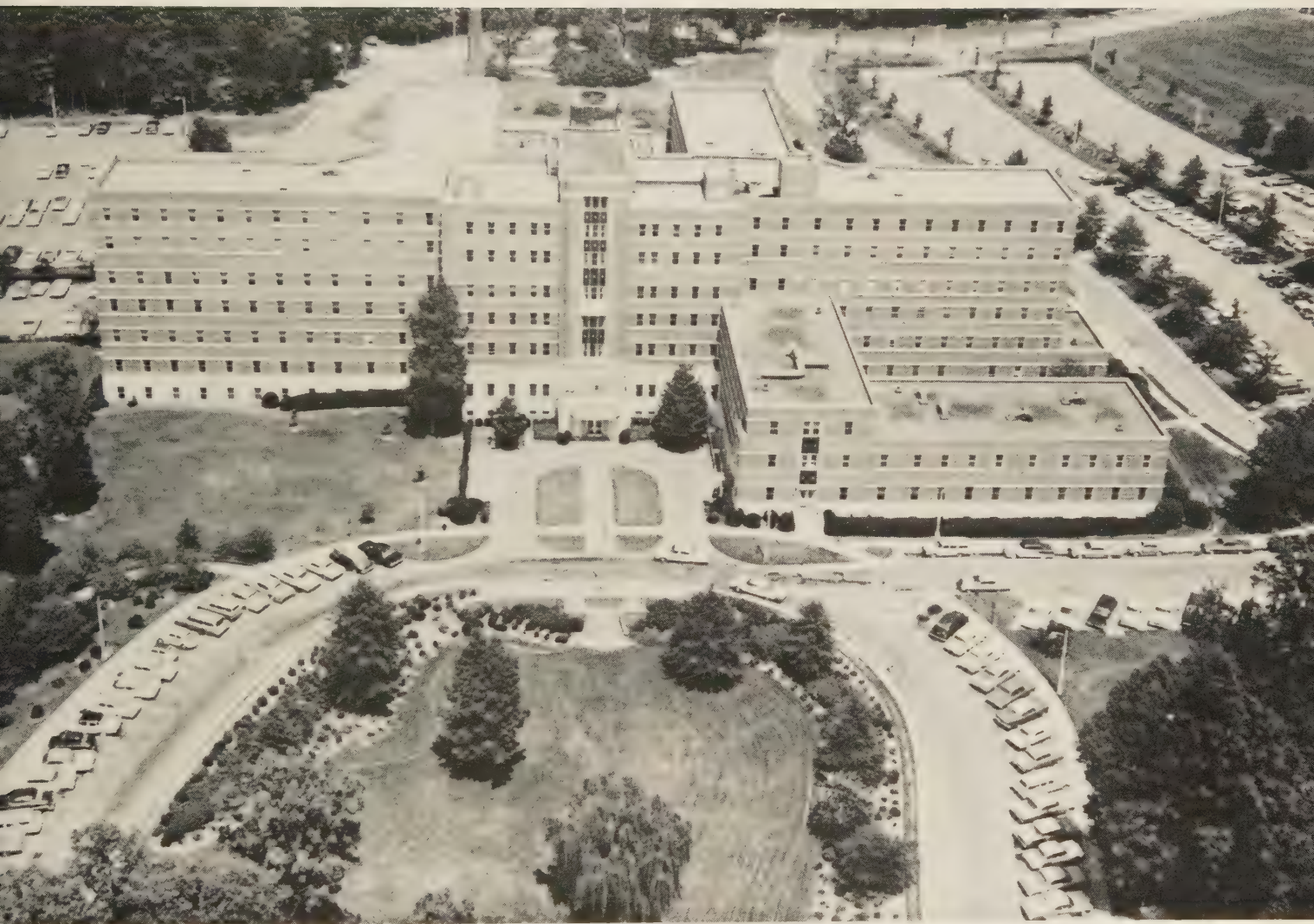
Courtesy of Greensboro College



Police firing range, 1962, Air Harbor Road at Greensboro Police Club.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department





Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital. Opened to patients in 1953, this institution was made possible through a bequest of Mrs. Moses H. Cone. It is today ranked as one of the major medical centers in North Carolina. This photograph is from the 1960s.

Courtesy of Moses Cone Hospital



1965, Elm Street looking south.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



Elm Street, workmen removing overhead signs.
"Scrap Old Signs" Day in 1971.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



Major Jim Melvin, left, on "Scrap Old Signs" Day.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



The historic sit-in at the Woolworth's lunch counter in downtown Greensboro in 1960 by A & T State University students. From left: David Richmon, Franklin McCain, Ezell Blair, Jr., Joseph McNeil. The sit-ins and boycotts by blacks of store goods led to desegregation of the city's eating places.

Photo by Jack Moebes
Courtesy of Greensboro News Company



Jesse Jackson, shown here on a visit to North Carolina A & T State University, autumn 1973, is a 1969 graduate of A & T. He was quarterback on the football team and president of the Student Government Association. As a student, he actively demonstrated for desegregation of public facilities in Greensboro.

Jackson became a field lieutenant for Martin Luther King. He directed Operation Breadbasket in Chicago. He was with King when King was killed at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.

Jackson founded PUSH, People United to Save Humanity, and is still active in the civil rights movement.

Courtesy of A & T State University



Former CBS News president Fred Friendly and interested citizens at the dedication of the Edward R. Murrow Bust, at Murrow Boulevard and Friendly Avenue, January 6, 1971.

Courtesy of Greensboro Chamber of Commerce

Greensboro Chamber of Commerce

Edward R. Murrow Award 1975



for journalistic excellence and communication service
leadership on behalf of the Greensboro business community

Conrad A. Paysour

Copy of excellence award presented annually by
Greensboro Chamber of Commerce, and honoring
Guilford County native Edward R. Murrow.

Courtesy of Greensboro Chamber of Commerce

Edward R. Murrow

Edward R. Murrow, the famed CBS broadcaster and later director of the United States Information Agency, was born on April 25, 1908, the son of Roscoe and Ethel Murrow, on a farm near Greensboro. Although he was moved away by his family at age four, the city claims him as its own. The Greensboro Chamber of Commerce annually presents an Edward R. Murrow Award to local journalists for excellence in communication service.

Murrow's voice came to be known intimately by the American people through his CBS radio reports from London in World War II, which always began "This...is London." After the war Murrow's reportage continued on the CBS television network's "See it Now," "Small World," and "Person to Person."

He won every major radio and television news award available, some several times over, for the stellar reporting that marked his entire broadcasting career. President John F. Kennedy named him Director of the United States Information Agency in 1961. When Murrow resigned from the post in 1964, both houses of Congress paid him special tribute.

LOOK BEFORE



and Buy where they have the Prettiest GOODS and

T. CALDWELL

At the old Stand, in Greensborough, N. C. h

FALL AND WINTER

DIRECT FROM THE EAST

Come, and Still they Come!

Where is all this crowd going! To Caldwell's Cash Store, where they sell Cheap, and thank all who leave them a Penny.

At Caldwell's they have but one Price for all classes. Walk in, for they can and will give you BARGAINS!!

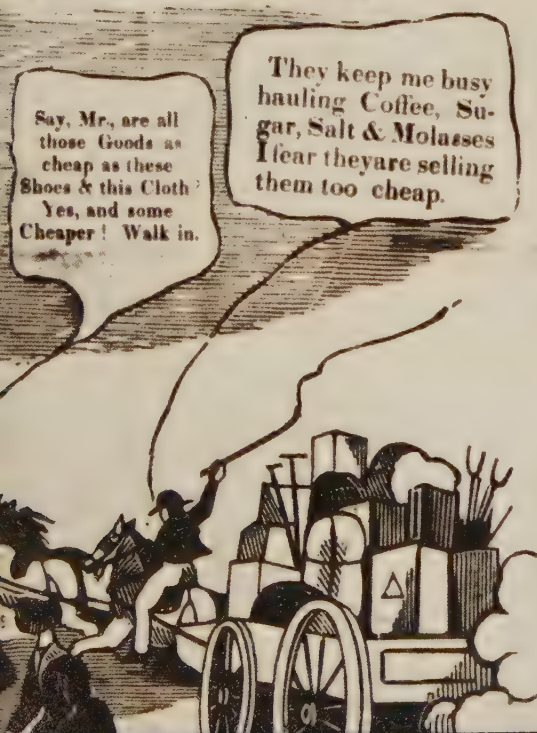


YOU BUY!

the CHEAPEST BARGAINS

& SONS

Splendid Stock of OUR GOODS IN CITIES.



JUST IN TIME TO BE VERY C

GOVERNMENT AND COMMERCE

Independence, practicality, and raw-boned honesty have marked the annals of both government and business in Greensboro. Citizens were proud of being called "able" and "honorable," and, with few exceptions, so they were in conducting both the city's affairs and their own.

Nineteenth century endeavors included the manufacture of firearms, spokes, hats, cigars, and plows. The arrival of the Cone family in the later part of the century opened the way for other Jewish immigrants, who found an atmosphere of openness and congeniality not entirely typical of the South of that day. Among such families were the Schiffmans, whose jewelry stores now flourish in the Gate City.

The twentieth century brought expansion in textiles and forays into insurance, food production, furniture, printing and publishing, chemicals, lumber, steel, and tobacco. Fortunes were made in real estate, especially as Greensboro tripled in population from the close of World War II to the early 1970s.

Today Burlington Industries, from modest beginnings in 1923, has grown to become the world's leading producer of textiles, and Lorillard's Greensboro plant on East Market Street, which opened in 1956, is one of the nation's most modern cigarette-producing facilities.

Advertisement for T. Caldwell & Sons dry goods store in the mid-1800s.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



Black, F. L. (born 1870) - 11 years. Physician.
 Married 1896. Income \$1,000.00. Owns a
 house on 11th St.
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 house on 11th St.

Fariss-Klutz Drug Co

121 S. Elm Street, Greensboro, N. C.



1906		January										1906
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday						
	1	2	3	4	5	6						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20						

Calculated according to the Kline Drug Company
 1906

Copyrighted by Greensboro Historical Museum



Admission to the fair is free and the fair is open to all. The fair is held at the fair grounds and the fair is open to all. The fair is held at the fair grounds and the fair is open to all.

Copyrighted by Greensboro Historical Museum





Stock Certificate Number One.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum

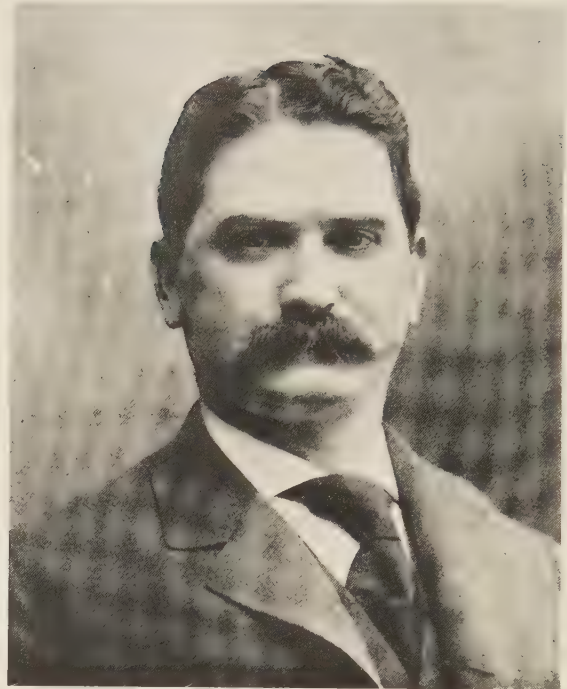
Proximity Manufacturing Company, original mill, built in 1895. The corporate name was changed to Cone Mills Corporation in 1948.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



Ceasar Cone, co-founder of Cone Mills Corporation, and the first president of the company from 1895 to 1917.

Courtesy of Cone Mills



Moses H. Cone, co-founder, Cone Mills Corporation.

Courtesy of Cone Mills



1908 Greensboro Centennial Parade Float,
Proximity Manufacturing Company.

Courtesy of Cone Mills

PROXIMITY MILLS

Greensboro, N. C.

Mill Runs 60 Hours Per Week.

Stops At Noon Saturday.

Pays Off 8th and 23rd Of Each Month.

Deep Well Drinking Water Pumped Through Mill.

Have Modern Village; Streets And Houses Are
Lighted With Electricity;

15-Minute Street Car Service To Any Part Of The
City Of Greensboro;

Good Graded Schools Nine Months Of Each Year,
Best Of Teachers Are Employed.

The Health Of The People Is Our First
Consideration.

James Bangle, Superintendent

R. H. Inman, Carder
Thomas Bangle, Spinner
Harrison May, Dyer

S. R. Hunter, Beamer and Slasher
R. E. Sims, Weaver
R. F. Thigpen, Finisher

Printed broadside advertising Proximity Mills.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum

J. W. Scott & Co., jobbers in dry goods, did a thriving business on West Washington near Elm Street in the early 1900s. The building still stands and the business continues, said to be the oldest business in Greensboro in continuous operation.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



J. L. King & Co., Steam Tobacco Factory, around the turn of the century, location uncertain. To illustrate profits derivable from tobacco, a Chamber of Commerce publication of the early 1900s cited one Walter Lindsay, saying that he bought three hundred acres of land for one thousand dollars, planted three acres in tobacco and sold his first crop for 868 dollars. His second crop, from the same three acres, brought 1,188 dollars.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



Buggy factory, late 1800s.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum





Guilford Lumber Company, shown at the turn of the century, was on the west side of what then was called Ashe Street, now called Elm-Eugene. Dillard Paper Company and Dunning Industries, in turn, later occupied the same building, which is no longer standing.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



Prior to occupying its own building, the Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company had office space in seven different buildings, including its original location, the Fisher Building at the northeast corner of Market and Elm Streets.

The company was founded in 1907 in Raleigh, North Carolina as the biggest corporation launched to date in North Carolina, with a quarter million dollars paid-in capital stock, and a paid-in surplus of equal amount. It was moved to Greensboro in 1912. The aim from the beginning was to

establish a giant of an insurance company in the South. Named after Thomas Jefferson, the company had as its very popular slogan: "A Jefferson Standard policy is a declaration of independence for the family."

In 1945 Jefferson Standard acquired all the stock in the Pilot-Life Insurance Company, chartered in Greensboro in 1903.

*Courtesy of
Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company*



Completed in 1923, the Jefferson Standard Building is seventeen stories high and is the tallest building in Greensboro. It was built on the site of the old courthouse on the northwest corner of Elm and Market Streets.

*Courtesy of
Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company*

Security National Bank, on the first floor of the Jefferson Standard Building, in the twenties. The bank merged with North Carolina National Bank in 1960.

*Courtesy of
Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company*





Vanstory's Clothing Store, in the late twenties or early thirties, occupied first-floor space in the Jefferson Standard Building. Vanstory's evacuated its downtown store in this location in October 1974 and no longer exists.

Courtesy of
Jefferson Standard Life Insurance Company



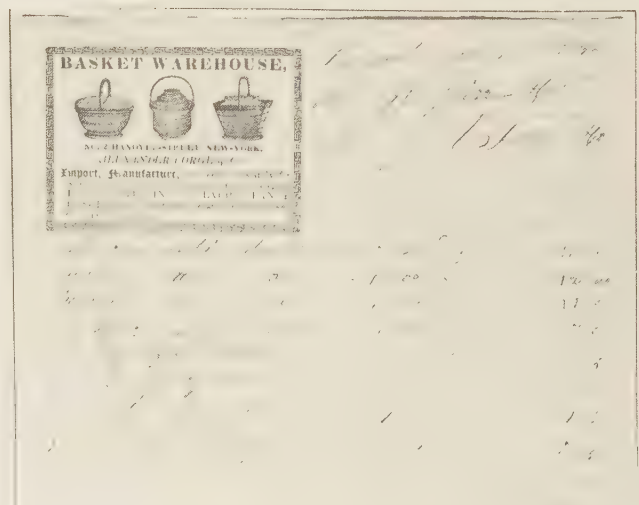


Sixth Guilford County Courthouse, which rose in the 1870s after the fifth courthouse burned in 1872. It stood at the corner of Elm and Market Streets for more than half a century before being razed.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum

Statement from Alexander Forge & Co., New York, dated March 26, 1832, for account of Wm. Kerr & Co., Greensborough. List includes traveling baskets, English reticules, knife baskets, fancy reticules, closed workbaskets.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum





Employees of the Bank of Guilford, about 1900.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



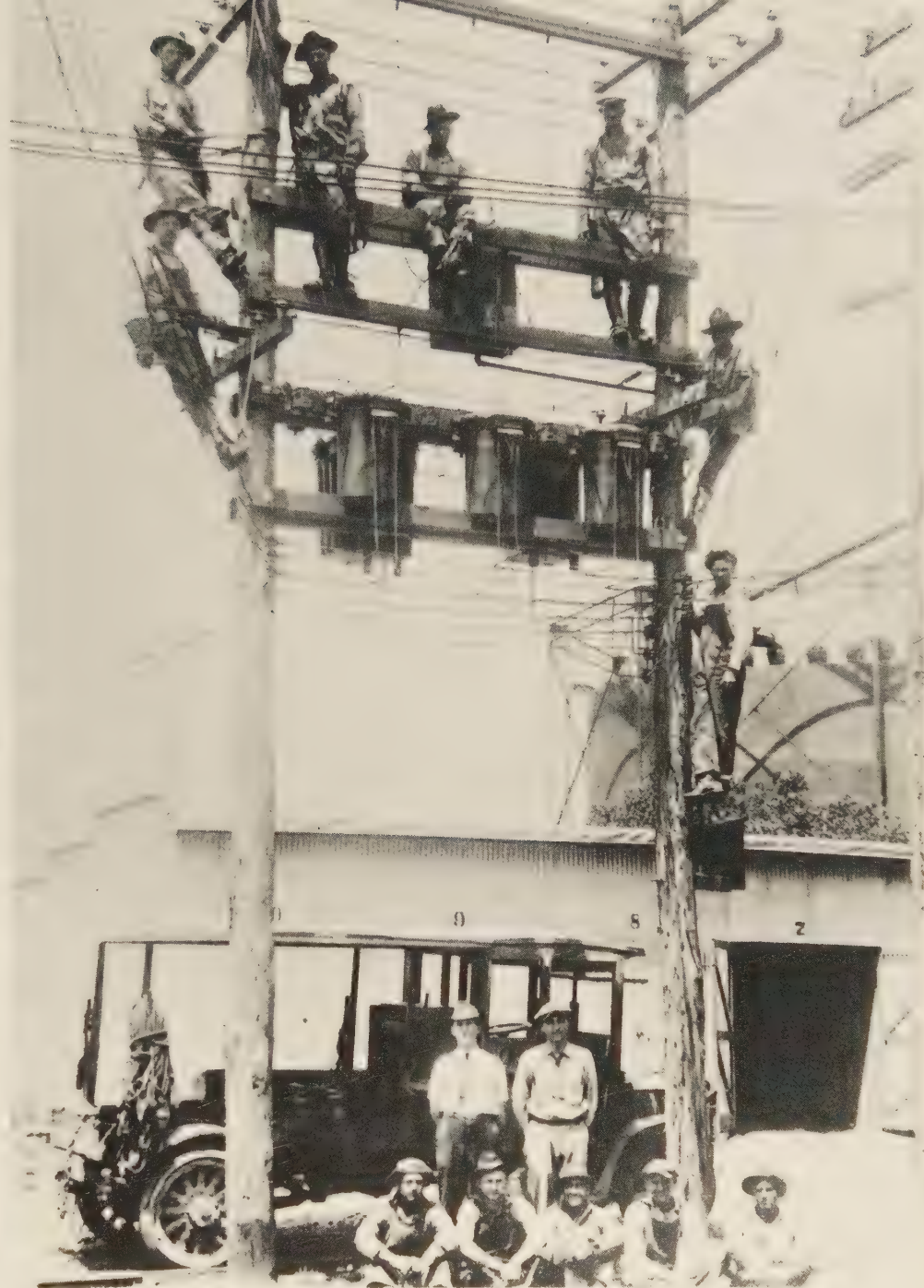
Tar Heel Liniment Co., Emerson and Houston, Proprietors, early 1900s.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



The Federal Building, with the United States Courthouse and Post Office, on the corner. This picture was taken at the opening of the Sixth Annual Fair.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



1920s line crew.

Courtesy of Duke Power Company



Greensboro's first city hall and grand opera house at the northwest corner of Elm and Gaston Streets. In the building's rear was the old central fire station.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



The old city hall, just before it was torn down in 1972. It was located at the corner of Greene and West Friendly behind the Wachovia Building.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



Wachovia Building in bare girder form in 1965. The gleaming structure was finished in 1966.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



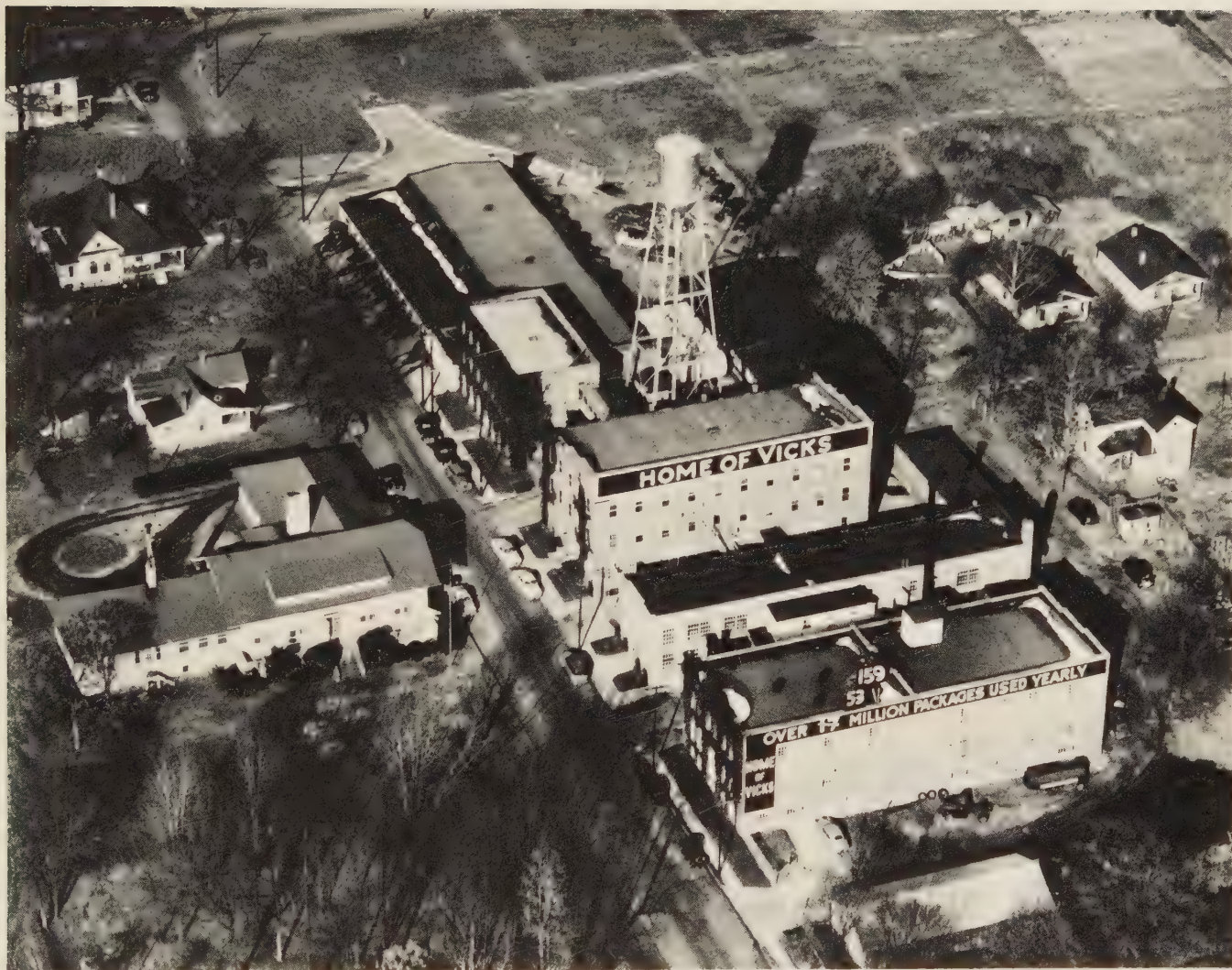
Greensboro is noted for its superb thoroughfares and its virtual lack of traffic jams during rush hours. Here workmen complete a ramp leading to Summit Avenue from O. Henry Boulevard.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



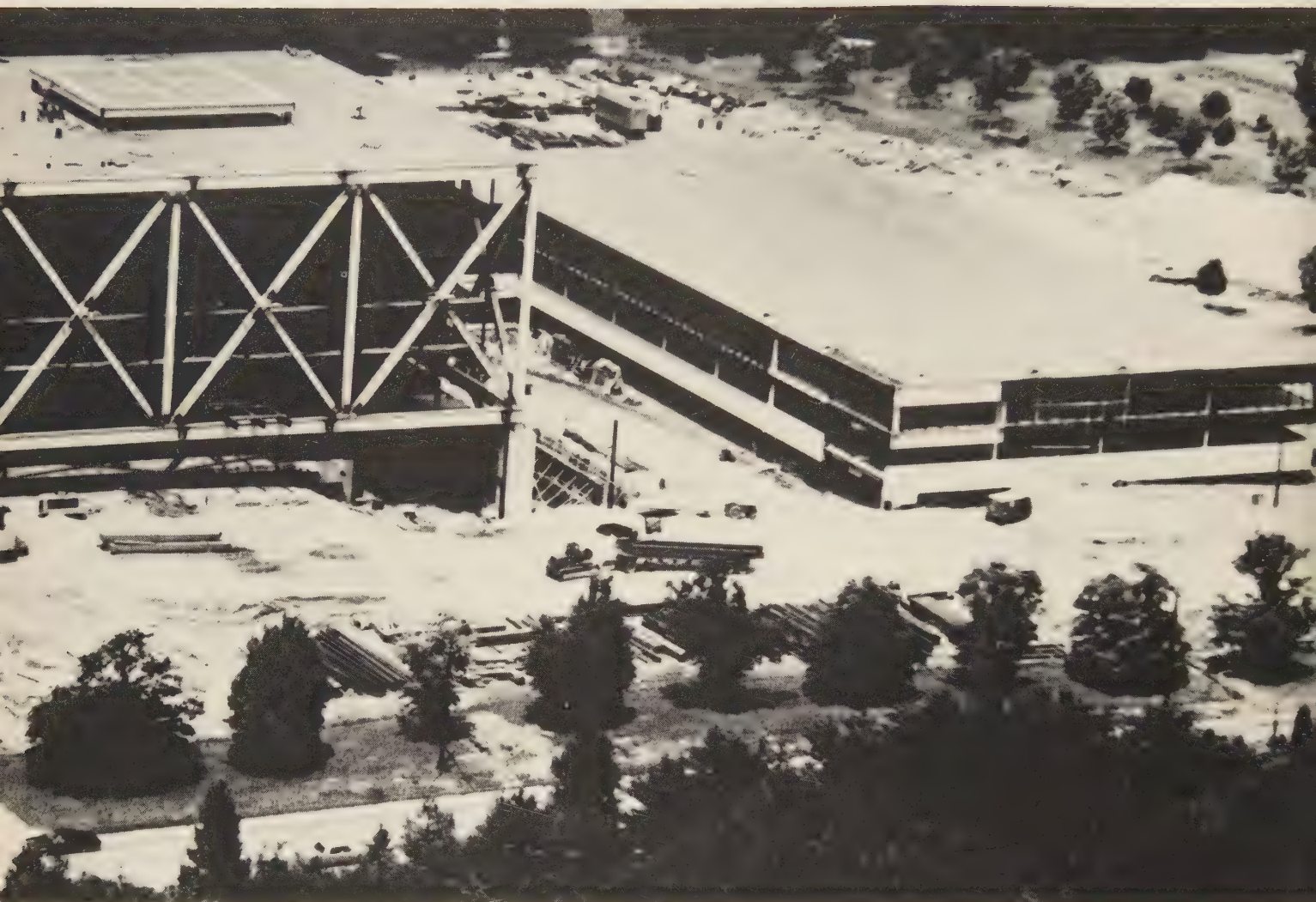
Pilot Life began in a single ground-floor office twelve feet wide and twenty feet long located on Elm Street near Courthouse Square. It grew rapidly and by the late 1920s made the move from downtown Greensboro to a rolling 190-acre site in Sedgefield. The company put up buildings patterned after the classic design of Provincial Governor William Tryon's Palace at New Bern, in which its operations still are housed.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



The Vick Chemical Company, home of world-famed Vick's cough drops, was founded in Greensboro by Lunsford Richardson. He undertook to produce a medicine to beat "the common cold" and named it for his friend, brother-in-law, and advisor, Dr. Joshua Vick. The original Vick plant on Milton Street was still operating in the 1970s.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



Burlington Industries, a world leader in textile products from synthetic fibers, began in 1923 in the neighboring city of Burlington, hence its name. In 1934-35 the company moved the nerve center of its operations to the corner of Bellemeade and Eugene Streets, Greensboro. The company now has more than 110 plants in eleven states and nine foreign countries employing more than seventy thousand people. Its headquarters building is on West Friendly Avenue.

Courtesy of Burlington Industries

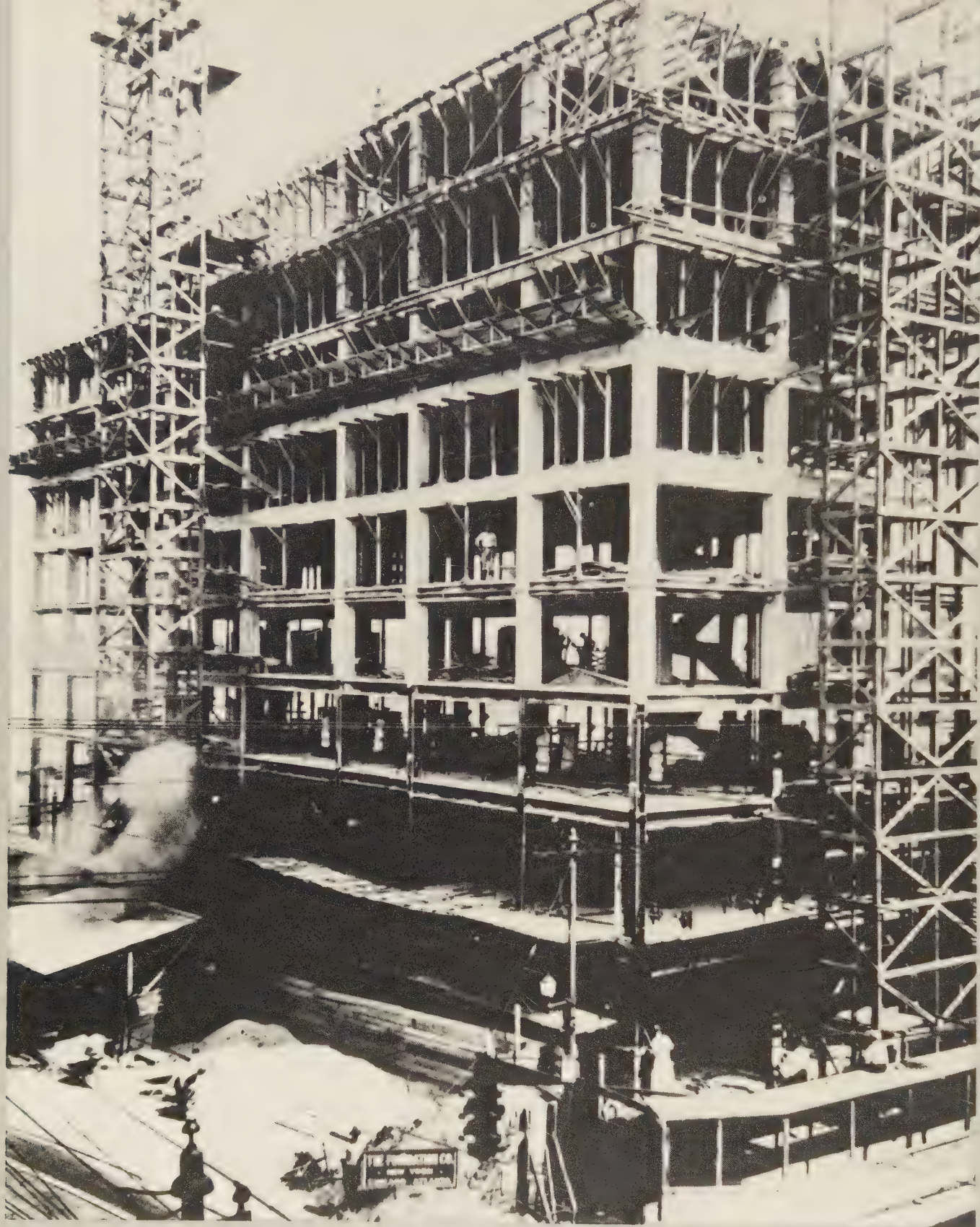


Courtesy of Burlington Industries



Detail of Burlington Industries construction.

Courtesy of Burlington Industries



The landmark King Cotton Hotel under construction in the early 1900s.

Courtesy of Greensboro Redevelopment Commission



The King Cotton Hotel, erected in 1927, occupied the original site of Christopher Moring's Inn of antebellum days on East Market and Davie Streets. J. E. Latham and his associates, builders of this hotel, had connections with the cotton trade of the day, thus the name "King Cotton."

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



An incredible camera sequence caught the implosion that leveled the King Cotton in 1973. The entire building came down in less than twelve seconds. Note the truck parked at the corner of Davie and East Market Streets, untouched by the debris.

Courtesy of Greensboro Redevelopment Commission









EDUCATION

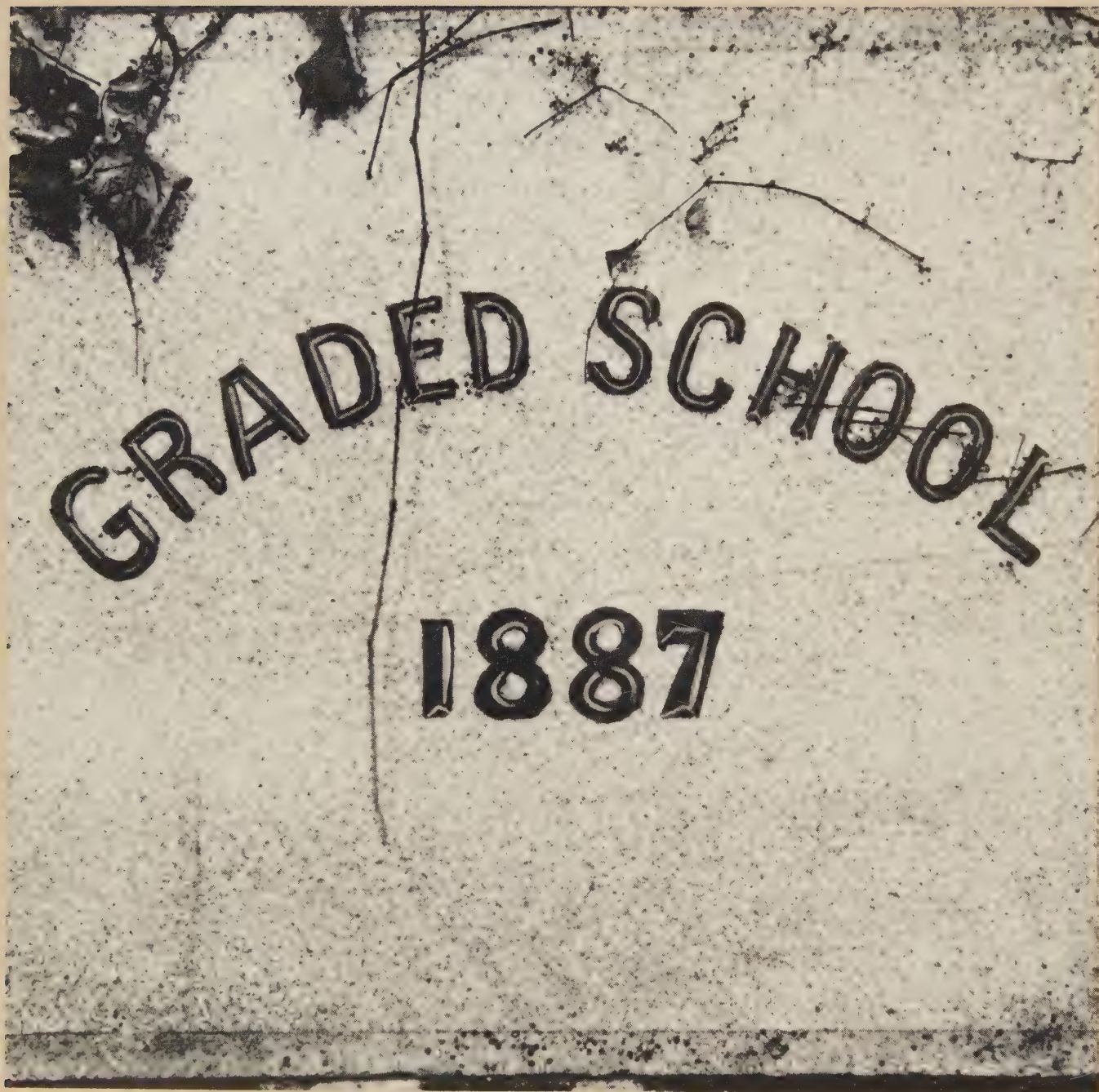
The ironies of education in North Carolina are almost too poignant to talk about. Though a leader in the early establishment of higher education institutions of great stature, the state has long ranked low in overall literacy of its citizenry. David Caldwell and his famed Log Cabin College, profiled in this section, give testimony to an early commitment to learning, as does the rise in Greensboro of not one but five fully-accredited senior institutions, two of them burgeoning universities.

And today, the talent and resources of those great institutions are being poured into an innovative "school within a school" program at Dudley High School.

The aura of academia permeates Greensboro. Students come from all fifty states and many foreign lands to matriculate at UNC-G, A & T State University, Guilford, Greensboro, and Bennett Colleges.

A schoolhouse near Patterson's Grove in 1904. Schools of this type led to the organization of the Women's Association for the Betterment of Public Schools in North Carolina by Dr. Charles Duncan McIver, president of the State Normal and Industrial School (now UNC-G).

Courtesy of UNC-G



Stone marking opening date of the Lindsay Street School, the first permanent graded school in the state of North Carolina. The school was demolished in 1926.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum

David Caldwell

In 1765, Buffalo and Alamance Presbyterian Churches of Piedmont, North Carolina, invited a young Pennsylvania-born minister to "labor at least one year as a missionary in North Carolina." He came for a year and stayed for a lifetime.

In 1776, at Halifax, he helped to write the first constitution of the independent state of North Carolina.

A 1761 graduate of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University), the Reverend Mr. Caldwell opened for young men in Greensboro a classical school that soon became known as Caldwell's Log College.

Students from all states south of the Potomac were drawn to his school. Many achieved prominence as statesmen, lawyers, judges, physicians and preachers. Five of his students became governors of various states.

In 1789, when the University of North Carolina was chartered as the first state university in the nation, Caldwell was offered the presidency. Beyond a doubt he was recognized as the leading educator in the state. He declined the offer because of his then-advanced age—in his seventies. He nonetheless lived until age one hundred, dying in

1824. However, the university went on to recognize his abilities by awarding him one its first three honorary degrees of Doctor of Divinity in 1810.

A practicing physician as well as a minister and educator, Caldwell attended the sick and wounded soldiers of both the British and American armies after the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. He also gained a reputation as a successful farmer and an able statesman. In 1776 he helped write the constitution of the State of North Carolina. Supporting the war of 1812, he delivered such an impassioned speech at the Greensboro Courthouse to promote enlistment in the Army that more volunteers stepped forward than recruiters were able to accept.

The Log College dissolved as an institution before 1811 but Caldwell taught a few private students until about 1816. With Caldwell's demise, the building fell into disuse and some of its logs were eventually used in another structure.

The David Caldwell Log College, Inc., a group of deeply interested citizens, now is engaged in raising money to create a memorial park in honor of the great Greensboro educator and to fund studies into his life and his influence on the community, the state, and the nation.



Sketch of David Caldwell Log College. No photo exists.

Courtesy of The David Caldwell Log College, Inc.



Map shows the area bounded by Holden Road, Cornwallis Drive, and Hobbs Road where the Log College stood, recently acquired as a commemorative park.

Courtesy of The David Caldwell Log College, Inc.





Greensboro College

Greensboro College, the first college to open its doors within the city, now occupies a hilly twenty-five-acre campus on West Market Street. It was founded in 1833 as the Greensborough Female School, under the leadership of the Reverend Peter Doub. The cornerstone was laid in 1843 for the Methodist-affiliated school, and students trickled into the place in 1846.

This mid-1850s view was taken from West Market Street looking south on College Place.

Courtesy of Greensboro College





Mrs. Lucy H. Robertson, president of Greensboro College, 1902-1913.

Courtesy of Greensboro College

Some early figures in the annals of higher education in Greensboro. Here Dr. Turner M. Jones, president of Greensboro College from 1854 to 1890, poses with a group of students.

Courtesy of Greensboro College



Greensboro College physical education class, late 1940s or early 1950s.

Courtesy of Greensboro College

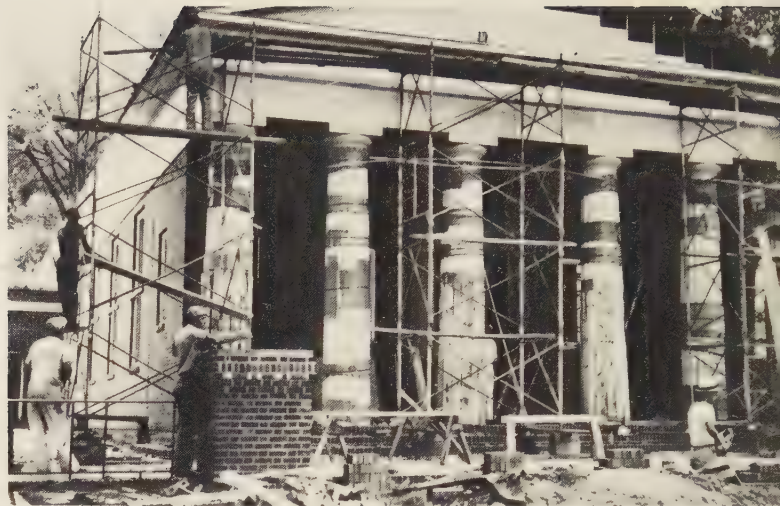


May Day at Greensboro College in the 1930s.

Courtesy of Greensboro College

Construction of Hannah Brown Finch Chapel at GC, completed in 1954. The chapel was a gift to the college by Mr. George D. Finch of Thomasville.

Courtesy of Greensboro College



The Right Reverend Monsignor Hugh Dolan (left) and Dr. James Hull (right) flank Greensboro College's first Nigerian graduate, Nathaniel Nkanta. Dr. Hull had recruited Msgr. Dolan of St. Pius X Roman Catholic Church and Rabbi Arnold Task of Temple Emanuel synagogue to teach a "contemporary religions" course with him. Dr. Hull is Methodist, and GC is affiliated with the Methodist Church. This picture was taken in 1971.

Courtesy of Greensboro College



Artist's rendering of Odell Auditorium, built in 1922.

Courtesy of Greensboro College





Students swing to the jitterbug during an outdoor dance at GC in the early 1960s.

Courtesy of Greensboro College



E. R. ("Emperor") Jones (left), deceased, and Roy Phillips (right), retired, served as, respectively, chef and baker at Greensboro College for many generations of students. Here they are overseeing the serving up of their delicacies in the cafeteria.

Courtesy of Greensboro College



In a shot taken in the early 1970s contemporary GC students get together for a reflections picture at the fountain on the front terrace of the school on West Market Street.

Courtesy of Greensboro College



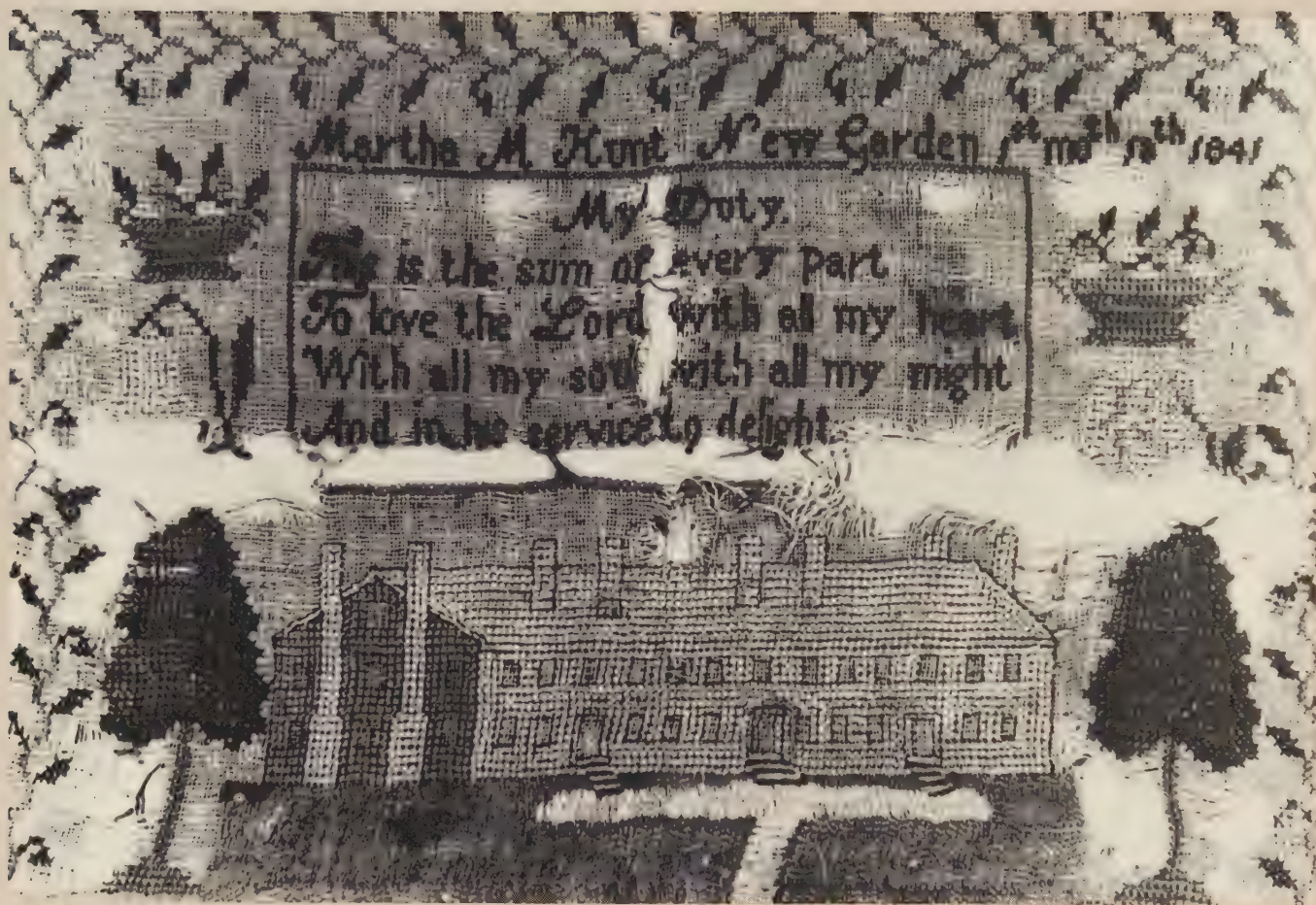
GC students of the 1970s horse around between classes at the old railroad trestle that skirts the east edge of the campus.

Courtesy of Greensboro College

GC's stately library beckons to future generations of students who opt for the intimacy and warmth of small-college education in Greensboro.

Courtesy of Greensboro College

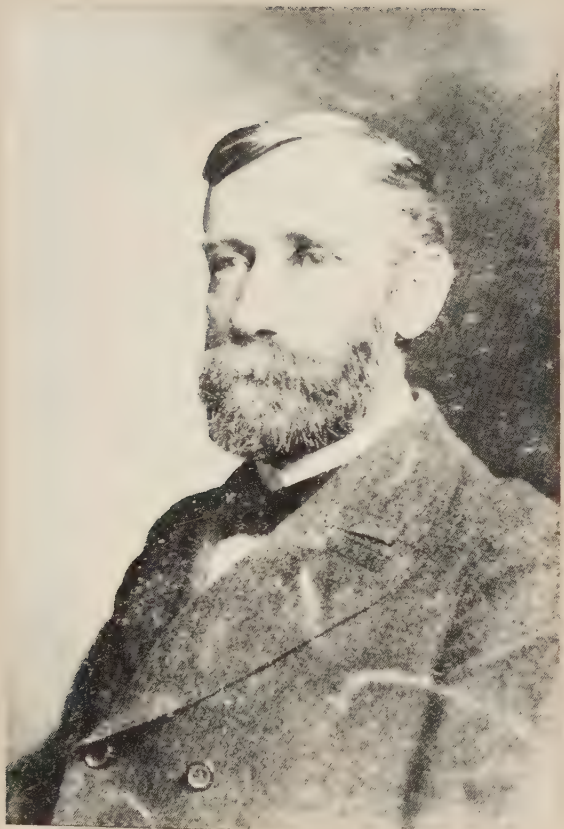




Martha Hunt's Sampler, 1841, shows New Garden Boarding School. The original hangs in the Quaker Collection Office Library at Guilford College.

Courtesy of Guilford College

Guilford College



Guilford College opened August 1, 1837 as the New Garden Boarding School, the product of a realization of deficiencies in education by members of the North Carolina Yearly Meeting of Friends (Quakers) in 1831. Lewis Lyndon Hobbs, first president of Guilford College (1888-1915) is shown here. He was the grandfather of Guilford's current president, Dr. Grimsley T. Hobbs.

Courtesy of Guilford College



Guilford College and Preparatory Department student bodies in front of Founders Hall, perhaps around 1888-1890.

Courtesy of Guilford College



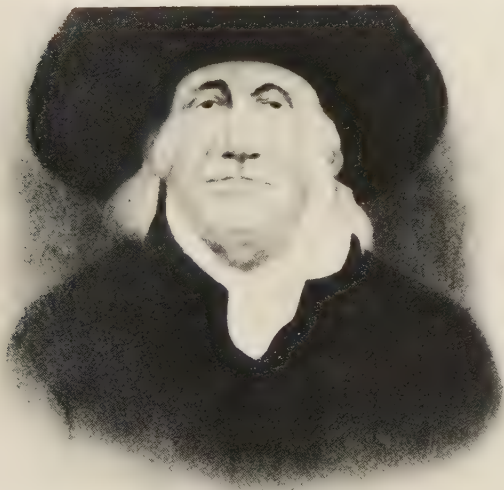
Students' room, Founders Hall, circa 1939-1940. From left, Kathleen Leslie, Eileen Dornseif, Priscilla Blouch.

Courtesy of Guilford College



Guilford College, Class of 1892.

Courtesy of Guilford College



NATHAN HUNT

Seventy Fifth Anniversary of the
Founding of

**New Garden Boarding School
and Guilford College**

1837

"The hoary head is a crown of glory."
Proverbs XVI: 31.

1912

Cover of menu and program of seventy-fifth anniversary commemoration of the founding of New Garden Boarding School. Nathan Hunt was considered the patriarch of North Carolina Quakers. He worked long and hard to see that New Garden Boarding School became a reality.

Courtesy of Guilford College



Founders Hall, 1896.

Courtesy of Guilford College



The second King Hall built 1887, burned 1908.

Courtesy of Guilford College



New Garden Meeting House, now New Garden Hall (administration building). This photo was taken before the meeting house became the administration building, circa 1965. The building was erected about 1912.

Courtesy of Guilford College



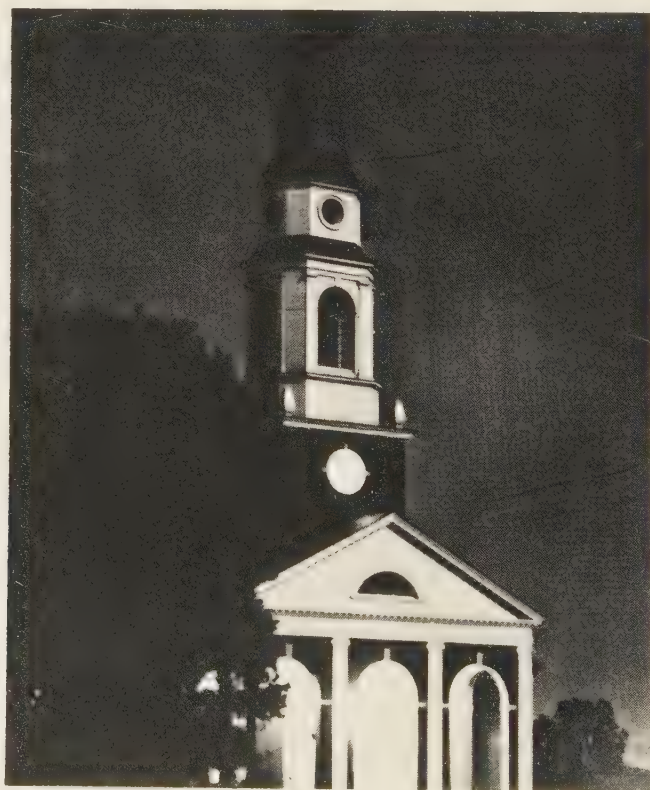
Mary Hobbs Hall, known as New Garden Hall when this photo was taken circa 1918.

Courtesy of Guilford College



Maintenance and construction at Bennett College was done by students working their way through college prior to 1926, when Bennett became a women's college.

Courtesy of Bennett College



Bennett College began in the unfinished basement of St. Matthews Methodist Church in 1873. In 1878 it was dedicated as Bennet Seminary, a co-educational school for blacks. The Chapel, shown here, was erected in 1941.

Courtesy of Bennett College



Bennett College

Bennett College got a new principal in 1875, the Reverend Edward O. Thayer. A graduate of Wesleyan University, he arrived in Greensboro straight from college. He was principal from 1875 to 1881.

Courtesy of Bennett College



Silas A. Peeler, instructor of English at Bennett in the 1880s.

Courtesy of Bennett College



Students working their way through Bennett as maintenance staff pause for this picture in the late 1800s.

Courtesy of Bennett College



A Bennett graduating class around the turn of the century.

Courtesy of Bennett College



Bennett girls swing their partners, probably A & T boys, in the 1950s.

Courtesy of Bennett College



In 1891 the North Carolina General Assembly established the Normal and Industrial School for Girls, and Charles Duncan McIver became the first president (1892-1906). In his Prospectus McIver said: "The state wants this institution to be good enough for anybody; and that is what it will strive to become." In 1932 the institution became the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina. In the 1966-67 academic year, males were admitted to the undergraduate ranks and the school became The University of North Carolina at Greensboro. This photo shows the first graduating class, 1893.

Courtesy of UNC-G

UNC-G



Charles Duncan McIver.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Industrial Arts class, about 1903.

Courtesy of UNC-G

Minnie Jamison, seated at left, presides over a luncheon prepared by a domestic science class around 1898.

Courtesy of UNC-G





Student body on the porches of Brick Dormitory about 1894.

Courtesy of UNC-G

Glee Club 1893-1895, directed by Mr. Clarence Brown.

Courtesy of UNC-G





College Avenue, still "paved" in mud, in the 1920s.

Courtesy of UNC-G





Gymnasium, 1904.

Courtesy of UNC-G

College tennis stars, names unrecorded, about the early 1920s.

Courtesy of UNC-G







FIRST ANNUAL ARTS FORUM

The Woman's College of the
University of North Carolina

February 25 and 26, 1944

The first Annual Arts Forum sponsored by The Woman's College of the University of North Carolina is designed to bring together those interested in the various arts in order to promote their understanding and appreciation. The Arts Forum is sponsored by the School of Music, by the Departments of Art and English, by the Physical Education Department and its Dance Group, and by the following undergraduate groups: Playlikers, Young Composers Club, Quill Club, Glee Club. The sponsors of the Arts Forum believe that the arts are of paramount importance, not only to individual living, but to the maintenance of our culture, and they believe that expression in its various forms will be encouraged by the Forum.

Courtesy of UNC-G

Classical drama at Woman's College, probably in the mid-1940s.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Circulation desk in College Library around 1925.

Courtesy of UNC-G



South Dining Hall under construction in 1924.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Snowstorm on the campus, with the Jackson Library in the background, 1950s.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Pillars of the Walter Clinton Jackson Library.
Courtesy of UNC-G



Members of class of 1966 of Woman's College,
shown in 1962, before the name was changed to the
University of North Carolina at Greensboro.
Courtesy of Donna Reiss Freidman



UNC-G students in front of the Walter Clinton
Jackson library, 1953.
Courtesy of UNC-G



A & T State University was chartered as the Agricultural and Mechanical land grant institution for Negroes in 1891, and grew to become the largest college for blacks in the state. It is now known as the North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. The A & M marching band, circa 1902, is shown here.

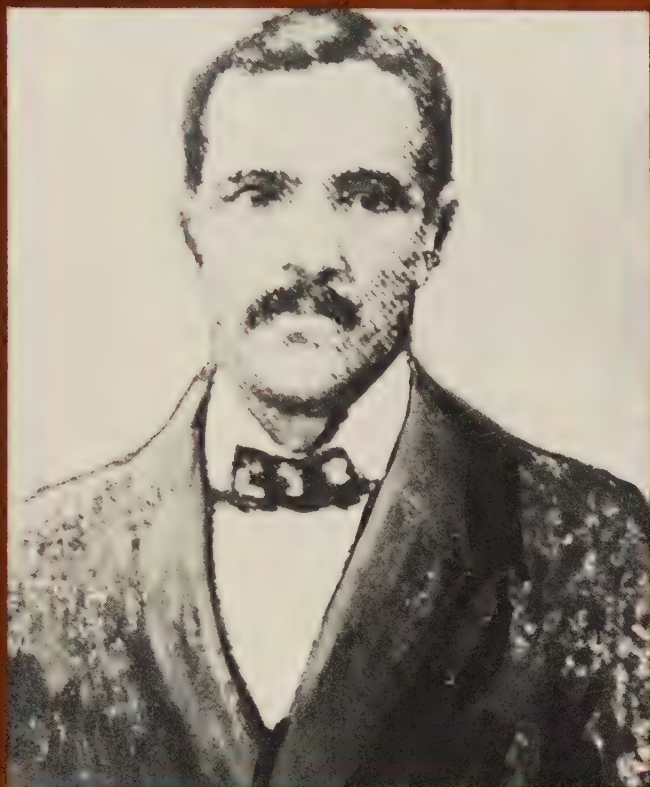
Courtesy of A & T State



Wood-working class at A & M in the early 1900s.

Courtesy of A & T State

A & T State University



Dr. John O. Crosby, first president of A & T, whose administration went from 1892 to 1896.

Courtesy of A & T State



Dr. James B. Dudley, president of A & T from 1896-1925.

Courtesy of A & T State



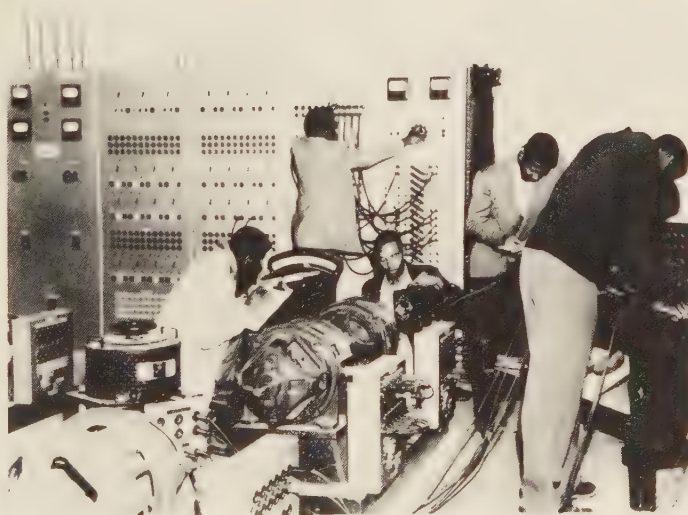
Students in the 1950s learn the fine points of tuning an engine.

Courtesy of A & T State



A demonstration of weaponry by an Army ROTC cadet at A & T in the 1950s.

Courtesy of A & T State



A contemporary class in mechanical engineering.

Courtesy of A & T State





ARTS AND CULTURE

Unlike the coastal plain of Eastern Carolina, which was settled mainly by English planters similar to those who nestled near Richmond and Charleston, Piedmont North Carolina drew a heartier, more grass-roots element. Cultural activities hence grew more slowly. The inauguration of the city's colleges, however, provided a great spur. Benbow Hall, located in the old Benbow Hotel where the Woolworth building now stands, was the city's indoor entertainment center. Cotillion dances and even operas were held there in the 1890s.

The first theatre to show silent movies, the Crystal on South Elm Street, opened in 1907. A famed vaudeville house, the National, converted to movies when talkies came and stayed open downtown until 1966.

The Carolina, successor to the National as "the finest theater in town," opened in 1927 with "Painting the Town," starring Glenn Tyron and Patsy Ruth Miller.

Twelve years later the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra was formed as a college-community orchestra under the direction of Dean H. Hugh Altwater of the School of Music, Woman's College.

College drama provided more grist for the cultural mill, and Woman's College, in particular, attracted a number of notable poets and writers, including Randall Jarrell, Allen Tate, Peter Taylor, Robert Watson, and Fred Chappel.

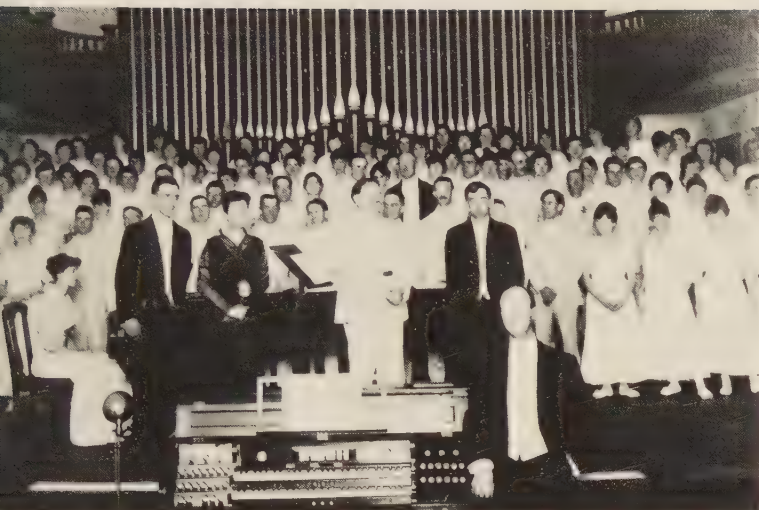
Sheldon Morgenstern turns to bow after leading the Eastern Philharmonic Orchestra through a selection at a recent edition of the Eastern Music Festival at Guilford College.

Courtesy of United Arts Council



A tradition since 1942, the Living Madonnas is a tableaux of artistic reproductions of famous paintings accompanied by choral, orchestral, and organ music held every Christmas in the Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel. It is a part of Bennett's Christmas gift to the community. The production is a joint effort of the music, art, drama, and clothing departments.

Courtesy of Bennett College



A Greensboro choral group, directed by Dr. Wade R. Brown (white suit). Brown was head of the Department of Music, coming to the State Normal and Industrial School in 1912. Brown Music Building on the UNC-G campus was named for him. Mr. George Scott-Hunter stands by the organ; Miss Alleine is at the piano. Photo taken in the early 1920s.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Recital Hall, old Auditorium in Main Building, GC.

Courtesy of Greensboro College



Mildred Town (standing), long-time organ teacher at GC, with Pat Robinson, student from 1954-58.

Courtesy of Greensboro College



Fiction by O. Henry from the collection in the
Greensboro Historical Museum.

Montage by Jeff Wayman



O. HENRY

Though over half his life was spent outside North Carolina, William Sidney Porter, who wrote short stories under the pen name "O. Henry," was much molded by his upbringing in Greensboro. Born September 11, 1862, seven miles south of Greensboro in the Center Friends Meeting Community, at age three he moved to Greensboro with his family. Here he lived until he was twenty, when he moved to Texas. Tom Tate, a boyhood friend, once recalled that even as a boy Will Porter had a literary instinct and a "quiet, dry humor and keen insight into the peculiarities of human nature."

Dr. W. P. Beall, another Greensboro citizen who knew young Will, reported that as a young clerk at his Uncle Clark Porter's drug store on Elm Street, Porter got acquainted easily with "all sorts of people so he could call by name nearly every citizen of Greensboro, white or black."

Down in New Orleans in 1896, Porter, by his own account, selected the pen name "O. Henry" during a chat with a friend while looking over a newspaper account of a fashionable ball.

O. Henry died June 5, 1910, in New York City, and was given a funeral in the Little Church Around the Corner, the scene of many weddings and funerals in the theatrical world. His body was laid to rest in Asheville, North Carolina.



O. Henry, William Sidney Porter (1862-1910). A portrait painted from this photograph was presented to the Greensboro Public Library by the O. Henry Study Club, 1939. Henry Ruesch, Jr., was the artist.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



Reconstruction in the Greensboro Historical Museum of interior of Miss Linda Porter's School House located at 426 West Market Street, where O. Henry received his early education, 1867-1876. He also attended Lindsay Street School.

Photo by Jeff Wayman



Homeplace of O. Henry from a drawing by Emma F. Griffin at Greensboro College archives.

Courtesy of Greensboro College



School attended by O. Henry, from Greensboro College archives. O. Henry's mother was a graduate of Greensboro College.

Courtesy of Greensboro College



W. C. Porter and Co., where William Sidney Porter worked as a young man. It was renamed Porter and Tate in 1886, about the date of this picture.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



Reconstruction of the W. C. Porter and Co. drugstore interior in the Greensboro Historical Museum.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



This picture is thought to be the last photograph ever taken of William Sydney Porter—O. Henry. He was visiting his second wife's relatives at Weaverville, North Carolina.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



Randall Jarrell, poet and professor of English, with students.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Caroline Gordon and Allen Tate, teachers of creative writing, at student registration, 1938. Tate was the first creative writing teacher at UNC-G.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Poet Robert Frost on a visit to Woman's College, now UNC-G, in 1955.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Writers at the Arts Forum, March 1949. Left to right, Richard Wilbur, Peter Taylor, Jean Stafford.

Courtesy of UNC-G

Greensboro Historical Museum

The Greensboro Historical Museum was begun in 1924 by historical-minded citizens in what was then the Greensboro Public Library on Commerce Street, where the education building of West Market Street United Methodist Church now stands. Its current property at 130 Summit Avenue became available after the First Presbyterian Church moved out and relocated in Fisher Park. Mary Lynn Richardson and her three daughters purchased the former church on Summit Avenue and donated it to the city of Greensboro. For years the building housed not only the museum but a public library branch, the United Way, and various art and craft organizations. One by one, all the others moved out, until by 1965 only the greatly expanded Historical Museum remained.

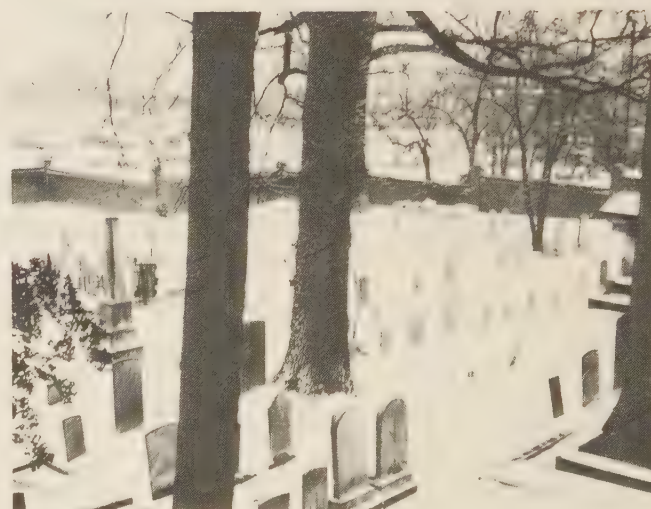
The Greensboro Junior League made a cash gift in 1961 to enable the museum to hire a full-time director, and in 1965 the City of Greensboro took over the responsibility for the director's salary and that of his staff. The present director, William Moore, has been on the job thirteen years and admits to "having grown right along with the museum."

The museum's most prominent collections are those of memorabilia of O. Henry and of Dolley Madison, surely two of Guilford County's most renowned products.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department

Cemetery behind the museum, in which are buried many of Greensboro's earliest residents.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



"Streetcar" cast. From left, Brenda Lilly (Stella), Mary Faran (Blanche), and Sonny Bell (Mitch) on a streetcar like Desire. The three starred in a production of the Tennessee Williams classic, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, in the Carolina Theatre in June 1976.

Courtesy of United Arts Council







This photograph shows the Carolina Theatre as it appeared in 1928. Note "Vitaphone," the "voice of the screen," which brought sound to the movies by a record-and-disk principle, had not yet been replaced by the sound-on-the-film invention of Paramount. This is evident on the lower part of the marquee.

Courtesy of Gene Street

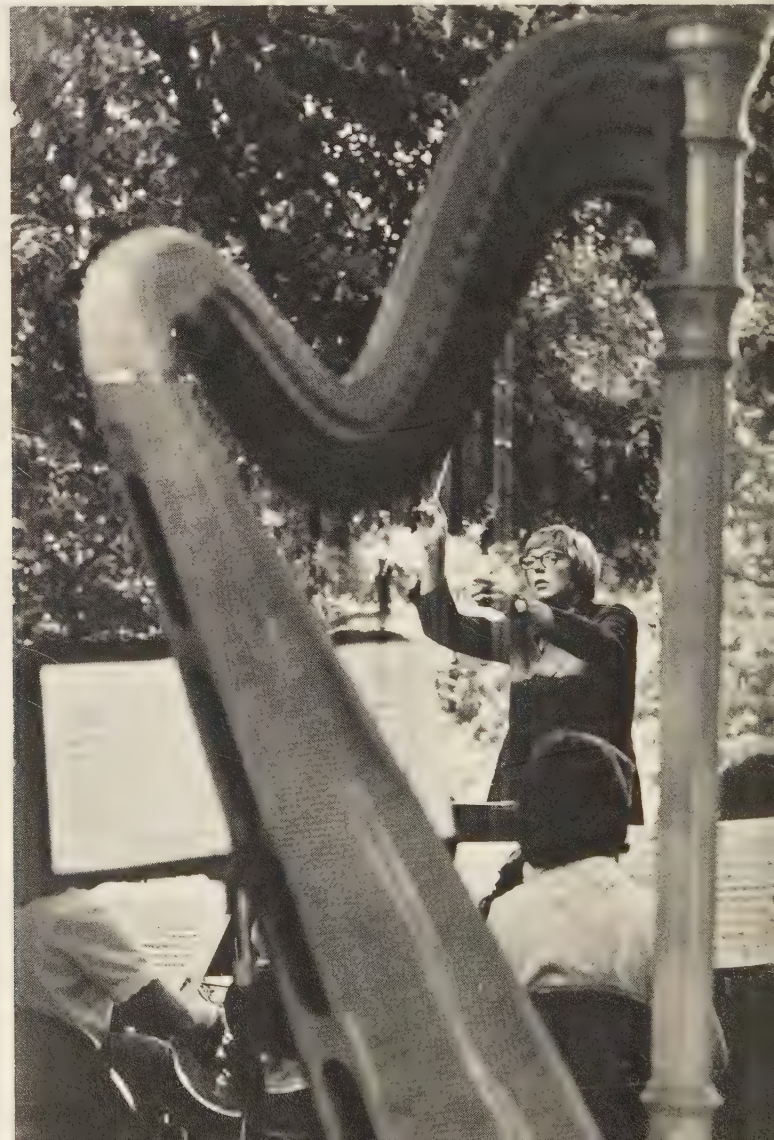
A side view of the Carolina Theatre's auditorium and stage as it appeared in 1976. Note the statues in the niches. Also note the "rocking chair" type seats, replacements for the earlier wooden seats in 1967.

Courtesy of Gene Street



Outdoor Concert, Guilford National Military Park, 1971.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



Robert Hause, conductor of the Eastern Carolina Symphony Orchestra, takes students through an outdoor concert at a recent edition of the Eastern Music Festival, where Hause is a perennial guest conductor.

Courtesy of United Arts Council



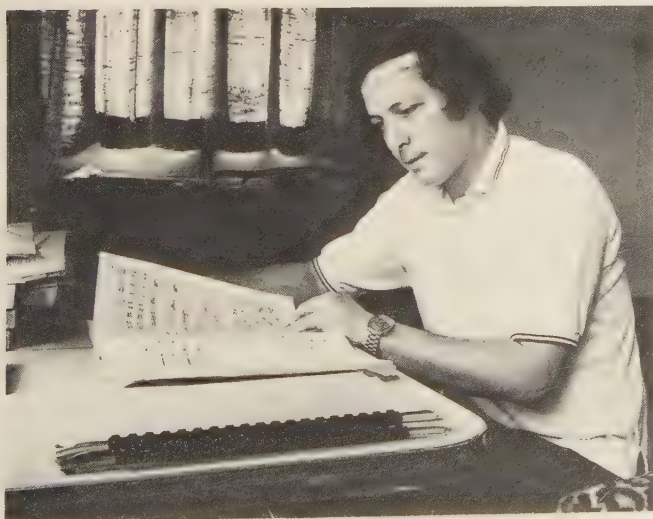
"Project Listen," an outreach arm of the Eastern Music Festival, puts student musicians in touch with children from the area's elementary schools. School children are encouraged to blow a horn or draw a bow across a violin or bass fiddle during breaks in the performances of the student musicians at the schools.

Courtesy of United Arts Council



Eugene Pridonoff, pianist, a perennial guest artist at the Eastern Music Festival and chairman of the piano department.

Courtesy of United Arts Council



Sheldon Morgenstern, a former conductor of the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra, pores over music at his farmhouse off Fleming Road in the early 1970s. Morgenstern continues as director of the Eastern Music Festival, held each June and July at Guilford College.

Courtesy of United Arts Council





SPORTS

In early Greensboro two of the most popular pastimes were cockfighting and a game aptly known as "Gander." One observer of the former sport wrote: "Many genteel people were promiscuously mingled with the vulgar and debased. There was drinking and sometimes the betting between young white and Negro boys involved a half quart of rum or a drink of grog. Anger—quarreling, wrangling, swearing—surrounded the cockfight."

"Gander" was scarcely more refined. The equipment consisted of a tough old gander with its neck greased and oiled with soft soap. The gander was unceremoniously hung on a tree branch. Mounted players rode by and took swipes at the gander's neck. The winner was the first player to decapitate the hapless fowl.

Other colonial era sports were quarter-horse racing, foot racing, wrestling, deer and turkey shooting, fishing, bowling, and billiards.

Sports that now dominate the American consciousness came into prominence in Greensboro much later. From the 1880s to the 1920s baseball was unquestionably the most popular sport in Guilford County. The most famous of a long series of teams fielded in Greensboro was the Patriots—later Yankees—whose sporadic lifespan came to a halt in 1968.

Professional teams in other sports have included the short-lived Carolina Cougars basketball team, of recent vintage, and the defunct Greensboro Generals hockey team.

Southern Hose Company was a fire station. This circa 1895 race apparently involved getting all hands down from the second floor of the firehouse and aboard the truck.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum

SPORTS *(continued)*

In 1888 A. W. McAlister, founder and longtime head of Pilot Life Insurance Company, opened a five-hole pitch-and-putt golf course on the northwest corner of Summit Avenue and Dewey Street, adjacent to the site of the old St. Leo's Hospital. The Greater Greensboro Open Golf Tournament, now the annual harbinger of spring for everyone from two to ninety-two, began in 1938. The event, conceived by the Greensboro Jaycees as a way of "putting Greensboro on the map," indeed has grown, as a headline in *The Daily News* once put it, "from a bold dream to a way of life"—and one of the richest purses on the professional golf tour.

The Atlantic Coast Conference basketball tourney, often held in the Greensboro Coliseum, its original home, is another sports landmark popular with network television viewers across the nation.

The universities and colleges have provided more sports fare, in everything from fencing to soccer to volleyball to swimming. And high school athletics have added even more events to draw spectators in this sports-minded city.



A & T football, early 1900s.

Courtesy of A & T State



The Henry K. Burtner Post of the American Legion (Burtner was the first Greensboro man to die in World War I) erected this stadium in 1920 in honor of Greensboro men who gave their lives in the first World War. The Post has promoted American Legion baseball in the stadium. During the various stints of Greensboro professional baseball teams, the stadium served as the home field. A & T baseball is still played there, and in the fall the semiprofessional football team Greensboro Redskins draw fans.

Courtesy of Greensboro Historical Museum



Guilford College Football Team, 1900.

Courtesy of Guilford College





Greensboro Country Club, looking from Sunset Drive, in the 1930s.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library

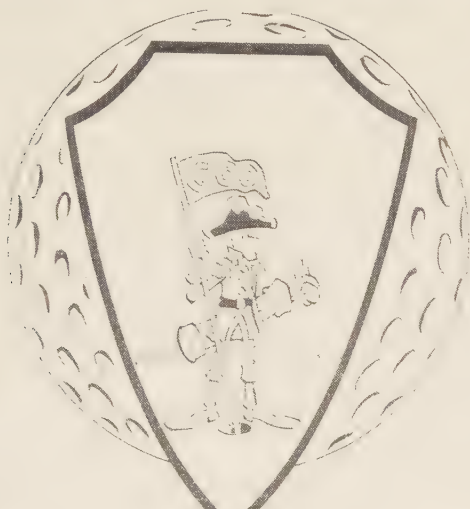
UNC-G golf, Ellen Griffin instructing, about 1950.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Greater Greensboro Open, Starmount Country Club, late forties or early fifties.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett



"Nat Greene," symbol of the Chamber of Commerce, at the Greater Greensboro Open.

Courtesy of Greensboro Chamber of Commerce



GGO, Sedgefield Country Club, 1960s.

Courtesy of B. Allen Jones, Jr.



Arnold Palmer, Wake Forest contribution to the game of golf, stands on a fairway of Sedgfield Country Club during a GGO tourney in the early 1970s.

Courtesy of Charlie Harville



Gillespie Park Golf Course, 1971.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



Late 1880s to early 1890s. During this time, James Corrothers, the instructor of physical culture, introduced the athletic program to Bennett College. It was one of the few black schools in the south with such activity. The baseball team was very popular in the black community, and played those few colleges who were lucky enough to have teams. Bennett had one of the first black organized collegiate athletic programs.

Courtesy of Bennett College



Guilford baseball team, state champions, 1917.

Courtesy of Guilford College



Girls' basketball, 1917-1918.

Courtesy of Guilford College



Woman at bat, 1942.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Little League baseball at Lindley Park.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



Smitty, 1965, Greensboro Generals at Coliseum.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department





Freshman field hockey team, 1913.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Freshman hockey team, 1913.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Special hockey team, 1913.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Bennett College basketball team, circa 1941.

Courtesy of Bennett College



Swimming class, 1931.

Courtesy of UNC-G



Dolphin-Seal pageant, 1946.

Courtesy of UNC-G





GREENSBORO TODAY

"The things we see every day are the things we never see at all."

—G. K. Chesterton

"Greensboro," I once wrote in a *Record* column, "like taffy apples at a carnival, the autumn burst of russet and gold in the Blue Ridge, or a mate who is tender, loving and true, appears to be all too easy to take for granted."

Richly blessed over seventeen decades by a spirit of openness and innovation emanating from its diverse people, Greensboro has produced honest and able families, dedicated to public service, and has attracted both progressive industry and talented individuals from the world over.

Yet it remains comfortably small, as cities go, and homey. A capacity for openmindedness and toleration that predates the Civil War brought Greensboro through the travails of desegregation earlier than almost all the rest of the South. Interracial relations today are markedly congenial.

The city has a climate that, all in all, must be described as year-around mild. Greensboro needs to brook neither the sweltering summers of Florida nor the subzero chills and crippling snow drifts of the North.

Its gentle hilly terrain is perfect for cycling or Sunday afternoon hikes. And access to mountains by driving is three hours to the west, access to the Atlantic beaches four hours to the east.

Interior of the Mantelworks Restaurant on South Elm Street, an effort to recreate the mood of the 1920s and 1930s.

Photo by Jeff Wayman

Hagan-Stone Park, bridle trail, 1971.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



Latham Park, August 1971, Greensboro Archery Club.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



"Charlie" Llama, 1971, at the Country Park Zoo, was traded for smaller animals, so kids could pet them.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department





Greensboro Country Park, formerly called Battleground Park, is adjacent to Guilford Court House National Military Park.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department

Fishing at Country Park, 1970.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



Tree-planting crew, 1971. Part of ongoing city beautification.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department







The new Gateway Plaza high rise for the elderly, as framed by a sculpture by Horace Farlow.

Photo by Jeff Wayman

Blandwood—this impressive white Tuscan villa of a house, designed and built for Governor John Motley Morehead in the 1840s, recently was restored at a cost of four hundred thousand dollars, thanks to the Blandwood Restoration Committee headed by Mrs. Mary Lewis Rucker Edwards. The villa sits on a twelve acre tract along with the octagonal Blandwood Carriage House on West Washington Street, less than one mile from Greensboro's center intersection of Elm and Market.

Morehead purchased Blandwood from his



A contemporary photo of Sherwood House, onetime home of the William Swaims, O. Henry's grandparents, recently restored and converted into law offices. The house is scheduled to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Courtesy of Ethel Arnett

wife's stepfather Henry Humphrey, a leading Greensboro businessman, in 1825. When Morehead won election to the governor's office in 1841, he asked the New York architectural firm of Towne and Davis, responsible for designing the present-day Capitol in Raleigh, to take a look at Blandwood. Sketches were made and an agreement was reached to redesign the Morehead homeplace into the unusual Tuscan-style mansion. Blandwood is said to be one of the first Italianate villas built in the United States.

Photo by Jeff Wayman



MUNICIPAL OFFICE BUILDING



Gate City Savings & Loan, Corner of Market and Greene Streets.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



United States Post Office, East Market Street.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department

Reflections, left to right, in the tall panes of the Municipal Building are: the Wachovia Building, Gate City Savings & Loan, and the old county courthouse.

Photo by Jeff Wayman

New features of Greensboro's downtown are shown in this 1976 aerial. At right is the new Gateways Plaza, a residence for the elderly. At far left is the microwave relay tower atop the Southern Bell telephone exchange. To the right of that is the new jail and law enforcement center. The new North Carolina National Bank building is visible between the Wachovia and Jefferson Standard buildings. In the far right background construction is under way for the Greensboro News Co. building.

Photo by Dave Nicholson







Spiral staircase in foyer of Greensboro Public Library.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



Greensboro skyline, dominated by Wachovia and Jefferson Standard Buildings.

Courtesy of Greensboro Public Library



One of Greensboro's two municipal parking garages.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



The new Greensboro News Company building, erected on the site of the old King Cotton Hotel, at Davie and East Market Streets.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department



Set on a forty-five acre tract facing West Lee Street in the southwest section of the city, the Greensboro Coliseum Complex is touted as the second largest city-owned and operated facility of its kind in North America. The sports arena seats 16,800. The complex also boasts the 2,500-seat carpeted Memorial Auditorium, the three hundred seat Town Hall Theater, and a sixty thousand square foot exhibition center.

Courtesy of Greensboro Coliseum



Photo by Jeff Wayman



East Lee Street, 1969. Greensboro became an All-America City that year.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department





Good reading on wheels, 1973.

Courtesy of Greensboro City Planning Department

South Elm Street. Restored cars and restored buildings were among the contributions to the 1976 bicentennial celebration.

Photo by Jeff Wayman



Photo by Jeff Wayman

